



The Crittenden Press

Priceless history from Mule Days and more | Page 6

10 PAGES | VOLUME 144 | NUMBER 49
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025

x24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS / THE-PRESS.COM

AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

TWO DOLLARS



The Real Thing! Coke truck lights up Marion's parade

Entered by Grant Kneisler and David Farmer, the Coca-Cola Truck stole the show at Saturday's Christmas parade, winning the judges' Nostalgia Award – a category created on the spot to accommodate the standout entry. It was a strong parade with 45 entries, plus every fire truck in the county and Salem. Crittenden County Middle School boys' basketball bus also slipped into the lineup just ahead of Santa after returning home from winning the 5th District Championship at Lyon. Business category winners were Glenn's Pharmacies in first place, Kentucky American Seed in second and H & H Home and Hardware in third. In the church division, Deer Creek Baptist took first place, followed by Freedom General Baptist in second and Marion General Baptist in third. Organization winners included Extension's Friends Forever in first place, Marion-Crittendne County E-911 in second and Crittenden County FFA in third.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Marion City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Monday, Dec. 15 at city hall.
- Fredonia City Council will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, Dec. 15 at city hall.
- Marion-Crittenden County 911 Board will meet at 3:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 15 at city hall.
- Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 16 at the Marion Welcome Center.
- Crittenden County Board of Education meets at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 16 at Rocket Arena.
- Salem City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 16 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 18 at the County Office Complex.
- Crittenden County Conservation District will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 18 at its office on East Bellville Street.
- Crittenden County Public Library Board will meet at 5 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 18 at the library. Friends of the Library will not meet this month.
- Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, Dec. 22 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Livingston Fiscal Court will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 23 at the county office complex in Smithland.

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Judge's Recommendations Rogers calls on community to lift young people & support families

STAFF REPORT

Marion native and 1999 Crittenden County High School graduate Judge Brandi Rogers spoke to a Chamber of Commerce audience last week, delivering a message centered on responsibility – the responsibility of a community to encourage its young people, and the responsibility of local employers to embrace empathy as a practical, economic tool. It was the latest event in the chamber's Lunch and Learn series.

Her husband, local financial advisor Grant Rogers, offered the introduction before the judge began reflecting on what shaped her personal and professional path. Rogers said she was not a standout student, nor was she engaged in many extracurricular activities. She worked part-time, drifted academically and "didn't know a lawyer" growing up. Yet, through encouragement from teachers, mentors and community members, she found direc-



Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers was presented a gift of appreciation for speaking at last week's chamber luncheon.

tion. "Honestly, I didn't care if I was in class or not. Everybody knows that I got into a lot, because I was a child divorced parents. I had to speak to a judge when I was a little girl," she said, pointing out an early memory that may have been an underlying impetus for her

having empathy for children in difficult homelife situations.

She graduated from Western Kentucky University, then earned her law degree at Northern Kentucky University's Chase Law School. After that, she literally

See JUDGE/page 3



Marion Police Chief Bobby West, former chief Ray O'Neal and Police Sgt. George Foster show off some of the new gear the department received through grant funds provided by Kentucky Attorney General Russell Coleman.

MPD proud of ballistic gear grant

STAFF REPORT

The Marion Police Department has received nearly \$40,000 in protective gear through a grant from the Kentucky Attorney General's Office, support local officers say is vital for a small department.

"We appreciate the Attorney General's Office for keeping the smaller departments in mind," Chief Bobby West said. He noted the new equipment will be especially useful in active-shooter responses, barricaded-suspect calls and other high-risk situations.

"It will be used more than one might think," he added.

Former MPD Chief Ray O'Neal said the AG's office has assisted the department before with

See GEAR/page 3

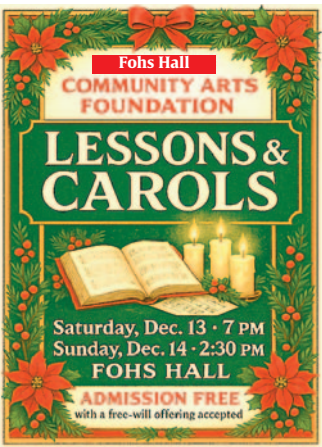
Fohs Christmas program is sure to become a community favorite

STAFF REPORT

A warm glow of Christmas spirit is expected to fill Fohs Hall this weekend as the Community Arts Foundation (CAF) unveils what organizers hope will become Marion's newest holiday tradition. "Lessons & Carols," a festive blend of scripture and song, will debut Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. and again Sunday, Dec. 14 at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free, with a free-will offering accepted.

Adapted and directed by local performer and arts leader Corey Crider, the event draws inspiration from a centuries-old Anglican practice while infusing it with the musical variety and community flavor Marion audiences have come to love from CAF events.

The program features an impressive lineup of local singers and musicians, including a community choir,



a local children's choir under the direction of Michelle Crider, Marion Methodist Church handbells team directed by John Michael Gage and Bluegrass favorites Cutter & Cash and The Kentucky Grass. Additional performances will showcase Michelle and Cade Crider, Lacie Duncan, Adam

Guess, Hannah Peek, Teresa Beavers, George Whelstone, Bek Schmidt, Payne DeHaven, Declan Bingham, Isaac Carter, Gordon Hein, Brennan Cruce and Gage.

Scripture readings will be delivered by familiar community voices, including Aaron Brown, Jeff Hughes, David LeNeave, Tyler Coleman, Brooke Hunt, Kenlee McDaniel, Rhonda Horack, Katie Keene and Howard Suggs.

The idea for this type of program grew out of CAF's long-term plan to keep a major Christmas event on the calendar every December as part of a four-year rotation. After successfully reviving the Living Christmas Tree tradition last December, Crider and others began brainstorming for

See CAROLS/page 4

Rare gift of consistency

The evergreen tree, that customary sentinel of Christmas, is my subject of philosophical wandering this week. I have been thinking much about its quiet endurance; how, in the midst of winter's barrenness, it remains unchanged. There is something eternal in a cedar's hues holding firm against a winter wind.

As we move through this holiday season, my mind attached itself, as minds often do, to words of 18th Century Scottish Bard Robert Burns when I heard them in a YouTube documentary last week. Of all his verses, it is a stanza from To a Louise that grabbed my attention like a screaming child in church.

*O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us
To see ourself as ithers see us!
It wad frae mony a blunder free us,
An' foolish notion:
What airs in dress an' gait wad lea'e us,
An' ev'n devotion!*

Here's the contemporary translation:

*Oh, would some Power give us the gift
To see ourselves as others see us!
It would from many a blunder free us,
And foolish notion:
What airs in dress and gait would leave us,
And even devotion!*

Burns's plain wish was that we might see ourselves as others do. It feels especially timely in a season when pride, comparison and performance creep into even our holiest moments. If we had such clarity, he says, many a foolish notion would fall away. Our pretenses, our strutting, even certain shows of devotion would dissolve before honest self-recognition. A humbling thought indeed.

Last week I wrote about the serenity of living in the backwoods of Crittenden County, and while wandering the fields again, it dawned on me that evergreens are nature's soldiers. Like the stoic guards at Buckingham Palace, they neither blink nor break despite rain, sleet, wind or snow. They remain evergreen. Steadfast. Unembellished. Loyal to their purpose. Most other trees surrender their colors as the season demands, but cedars do not. They are steadfast and constant.

Wonder then we should of how much steadiness we might reclaim if we patterned ourselves after such trees. How often our mental health, our blood pressure, even our tempers, rise and fall with the nightly news cycle. Politics wind people up until their hair is on fire. Social media, that grand accelerant, pours turpentine onto any open flame. My grandmother used turpentine to treat wounds; I have since learned that sometimes a remedy can worsen the injury.

My admiration is strong for those rare souls who rise above the chaos, remaining calm when angry seas thrash about them. I read recently of a surgeon who called for his wife from the bathroom. She was cooking and replied she'd be there shortly. When she finally walked in, she found two inches of water on the floor, a burst pipe, plaster hanging from the ceiling and her hus-

See RARE/page 9



Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

Deaths

Lanham

Gary Steven Lanham, 75, of Princeton, died Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2025 at Baptist Health Madisonville.

Surviving are a cousin, Billy (JoAnn) Lanham of Dawson Springs.

He is preceded in death by his parents, George and Frances Lanham.

No services are scheduled at this time. Gilbert Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Alsobrook

Christine Alsobrook, 81, died Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025 at Providence Point in Paducah.

She enjoyed crafts, making floral arrangements, gardening and volunteering at the Carson Center. She was a non-denomina-

tional "child of God."

Surviving are two daughters, Jenny (Richard) Obermark of Paducah and Traci Parson of Marion; four sons, Kenny Alsobrook of Marion, Carter Alsobrook of Salem, Scott (Carina) Alsobrook of Lake Havasu, Ariz., and Brian (Bridgette) Alsobrook of Menifee, Calif.; a brother, Steve (Ava) Bicknell of Culver City, Calif.; seven grandchildren, Sean Hanson, Mitchell (Tonya) Alsobrook, Michael Alsobrook, David Maiden, Xzana (Keaton New) Parson, Andy (Caitlyn) Alsobrook, Amber (Steven) McGovern; and 11 great-grandchildren, Jade Maiden, Brian Hanson, Clayton Alsobrook,



Isabelle Alsobrook, Hadley Alsobrook, Jaymes Coursey, Kayleigh McGovern, Conner McGovern, Bryce Alsobrook, Zane Drew, Cora Alsobrook and Rosa Alsobrook.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold Drew Alsobrook; a child, Dana Baylis; grandchildren, Christina Hanson, Justin (Rachel) Coursey; great-grandchildren, Makayla Maiden; parents, Albert John Bicknell and Ruth Christine Johnson Bicknell.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date in Lake Arrowhead, Calif.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Boyd Funeral Directors is in charge of arrangements.

Paid Obituary.



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Community Calendar

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

Thursday, Dec. 11

- Line dancing will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Crittenden County Senior Center.
- The Virgil Jones VFW in Marion will have a meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the VFW building located at 412 S. College St. in Marion. Refreshments will be served.

Friday, Dec. 12

- Laugh and Learn will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Crittenden County Public Library.

Saturday, Dec. 13

- Livingston County PACS will host a toy drive from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Salem Family Dollar Store. For more information contact the Livingston County PACS office at (270) 928-2827.
- The Salem Lighted Christmas Parade begins at 5 p.m. hosted by Salem Fire and Rescue.

Monday, Dec. 15

- WITS Workout starts at 1 p.m. at the Crittenden County Public Library.
- Geology Club begins at 3:30 p.m. at the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum.
- Cookie Craze starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Lions Club Building located at the Fairgrounds.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

- Walk in the Park will start at 3 p.m., at the City-County Park.
- Frozen JR auditions for students in grades 6–12 for the Community Arts Foundation's production of Frozen JR will be held. For more information or to sign up, visit <https://signup.com/go/exAEZOq>



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**Christmas Eve
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**Wednesday,
Dec. 24 at 6 p.m.**

Come be a part of this special Christmas event and bring the whole family.

New parking lot with plenty of parking space available.

If you are not a regular church attendee, consider joining us this Christmas season.





**Marion First
Cumberland Presbyterian
Church**

224 West Bellville St.,
Marion, Ky.

Pastor: David LeNeave

Don't let hustle, bustle dim season's true light

I'm typing these words on Nov. 29 as we're nearing the end of another year. My grandparents told me that it would be like this. They would say, "This year is just flying by!" As a kid, I had no concept of what they meant, except that I thought Christmas would never arrive and that baseball season seemed like an eternity away. Then it happened – I grew older and got busy with life. That's when the calendar started "flying by."

Before we get too carried away with looking forward, let's take a moment to reflect on yet another very blessed Thanksgiving season. Last month I challenged you to literally make a list of your many blessings. If you did, hopefully "Jesus" is near the top of that list. One Sunday afternoon a few weeks ago, I was driving down the road and counting my blessings, naming them one by one. As I did, the following words began to jump out from my list: God's blessings, God's love, God's mercy, God's goodness, God's grace. These words just seemed to all flow together:

"Thank you, Lord, for your blessings,
Thank you, Lord, for your love;
Thank you, Lord, for your mercy,
For your goodness and your grace from above."
A melody soon flooded into my mind to accompany these words of gratitude. I knew exactly what was happening; God was giving me the blessing of another song, one of several he has given to me over the



Chris CLARKE
Press Columnist
Happy Trails

years. So just to make sure that I didn't somehow lose this beautiful marriage of text and tune in the busyness of life, I typed it out on the memo app on my cellphone. (Don't ask me how I did it.) When I got home, I went out to the barn to clean stalls and feed the horses. By the time I got back to the house, I had two verses worked out to go along with the chorus (printed above). So I sat down at the computer and typed it all out, thinking that the song was complete. When I opened up the file the following day to check for spelling, punctuation and any other "goofy" mistakes, God gave me another verse – words that put the entire song into proper perspective. What a blessing!

Now that we have an attitude of gratitude, let's shift to looking ahead. You are well aware of what comes soon after Thanksgiving – Christmas! You may have noticed that it's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas these days, thanks to our current pattern of cold weather. (This weather pattern is more befitting of January than the end of November.) As we think about what the true meaning of Christmas is, perhaps it would be helpful for us to see what it is not. Let's look at the words of another song:

*It's not about the presents, it's not about the snow;
It's not about ol' Santa at the big North Pole!
It's not about the reindeer with the red, shiny nose;
It's all about Baby Jesus, every wise man knows!*

I wrote those words a couple of years ago, also while driving down the road. (Most of my songs come to me while driving down the road or while

cleaning stalls in the horse barn.) I wrote those words to go along with Clay Campbell's song about the true meaning of Christmas. Clay is our worship leader at Kentucky Lake Cowboy Church, located in the Kentucky Opry building in Draffenville. He wrote the song many years ago as a means of effectively sharing the true meaning of Christmas to those who attend his country music shows at Kentucky Opry. Check out these words which come from that song:

*Jesus is the reason for the season,
I want you to remember this I pray;
Jesus is the reason for the season,
That is why we celebrate this Christmas Day.*

Our Christmas celebrations will encompass a wide range of traditions, including Christmas trees and other decorations, exchanging gifts, talking snowmen and flying reindeer (caribou), nostalgic movies on television, holiday gatherings with family and friends, Christmas songs, Christmas programs in our churches, schools and communities, and many more. With all of the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, it is so easy to lose sight of what the true meaning of Christmas really is – the Baby Jesus, born in Bethlehem!

*Christmas is the birthday of our King;
The greatest gift of all, He came to bring.
He's the Prince of Peace, let's show Him that we care;
Let's put Christ back into Christmas this year.*

Don't get too busy with all of the Christmas stuff, or you may totally miss Jesus – the true reason for the season! Merry Christmas!!

Letter to the Editor

CWD and Me | The story of a hunter and a disease

To the Editor:

In the spring of 2002 I received a phone call from a friend that would change my life. He asked me if I had heard that a disease affecting deer called CWD (Chronic Wasting Disease) had been found in the area of Wisconsin where I owned hunting land. I had not but the results of that find would have dramatic consequences. For my late wife and me it led to our decision to purchase land in Kentucky in 2011.

The deer situation in southwest Wisconsin at that time was very similar to western Kentucky today. Way too many deer and lots of pushbacks from the hunting community as to what to do about it. One tool that proved to be effective was an earn a buck regulation. You had to harvest a doe to harvest a buck. This proved so unpopular that the state legislature outlawed the practice!

As CWD became prevalent lots of tactics were tried to stem the trend. Baiting was banned. Pretty much unlimited tags were issued. You were asked to shoot as many deer as you could and bring them to a pickup site for disposal in a landfill. Sharpshooters were brought in to bait and shoot deer on properties where allowed. Landowners were told they may have to allow this even if they did not want to. Nothing has worked.

Wisconsin has a deer hunting culture that is a very big deal. Most hunting is done on family-owned farms and it is a major social event. I used to joke the only way you would get to hunt these farms was to marry into the family and they might invite you in 5 to 10 years!

CWD has changed many things. The still unknown health threat is a major concern. No one can say for certain that this disease will not be a threat to people. As a result, it is now difficult to even get a deer processed. The local meat markets and others have left the business. Some of these were major operations.

I still own my Wisconsin land and yes CWD has solved the population crisis. Our deer numbers are down. I did a bow hunt for five days this year and saw 10 deer. Twenty years ago, that number would have been 20 to 30 a day.

I would like to urge everyone to please do everything you can to keep this disease out of Kentucky. Listen to the professionals, they understand the issue. The impact of not dealing with this threat will affect everyone. Deer hunting has major economic and social implications in our area. I think we owe it to future generations to protect it.

Andy Burkhart
Paducah, Ky.

Editor's Note: The author of this letter also owns property in Crittenden County. It should be noted that CWD has not been detected in Crittenden County, but it has been found in wild deer in Ballard and Pulaski counties. CWD is caused by abnormal proteins called prions. There is no known cure or vaccine, and the disease is always fatal in infected animals. The disease is not known to be transmissible to people, but as a precaution the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends not consuming meat from deer that test positive for the disease. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife always recommends not consuming meat taken from animals that appear to be sick or in poor condition.

KDFWR expands CWD Zone

STAFF REPORT

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission late last week approved expanding the state's CWD Surveillance Zone to include Casey, Laurel, Lincoln, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Wayne and Whitley counties. Those counties now join the existing zone in western Kentucky, which includes Ballard, Breckinridge, Calloway, Carlisle, Fulton, Graves, Hardin, Henderson, Hickman, Marshall, McCracken, Meade, Union and Webster counties.

CWD is an always-fatal neurological disease af-

fecting deer and elk. The expanded zone triggers regulations aimed at slowing the spread of the prion-borne illness.

Under the new rules, whole carcasses or high-risk deer parts harvested within the zone cannot be taken outside those counties. Only de-boned meat, clean skulls, antlers, hides and finished taxidermy mounts may leave. Deer harvested outside the zone may still be brought in.

Rehabilitation of deer is now prohibited within the surveillance area. Baiting remains allowed in the zone but not through contact-type

feeders, and statewide feeding restrictions from March 1 to July 31 still apply. Feeding and baiting remain illegal on all Wildlife Management Areas. Wildlife officials caution hunters that baiting increases the risk of transmission by concentrating deer.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife has tested more than 70,000 deer and elk for CWD since 2002. Hunters statewide are urged to submit samples through drop-off sites or mail-in kits at no cost, with results typically available in 4-6 weeks.

MARION POLICE activity report

Data below provided by Marion Police Department compare police activity for the month of November 2025 to the same month in 2024. The chart also includes the previous month's totals, year-to-date police activity totals and last year's monthly average.					
CATEGORY	NOVEMBER 2025	October 2025	November 2024	2024 YR TOTALS	2024 MONTHLY AVERAGE
Miles driven/patrolled	2,705	3,532	1,516	23,545	1,962.1
Criminal investigations	18	11	13	150	12.5
Domestics	8	9	11	88	7.3
Felony Arrests	5	2	3	48	4.0
Misdemeanor arrests	2	12	13	81	6.8
Non-criminal arrests	3	18	11	112	9.3
DUI arrests	1	0	0	2	0.2
Criminal summons served	4	0	3	51	4.3
Traffic citations	8	20	32	212	17.7
Other citations	14	25	30	285	23.8
Traffic warnings	3	2	4	55	4.6
Parking tickets	0	0	0	1	0.1
Traffic accidents	10	6	5	69	5.8
Security checks/alarms	59	68	59	720	60.0
Calls for service	214	225	215	2,578	214.8



MPD 270.965.3500
Police Chief
Bobby West

On Facebook
Marion Police
Department
Marion-KY

City crime is down over last 5 years

STAFF REPORT

With only one month remaining in 2025, Marion Police Department activity continues to show several notable shifts compared to five-year trends. New figures released for November indicate that overall community-driven activity is running higher than normal, while several enforcement categories remain below historic levels.

Through the first 11 months of the year, calls for service are averaging 212 per month, well

above the five-year monthly baseline of 178. Traffic-related activity is trending higher. Traffic citations are averaging 21.5 per month, above the five-year norm of 17.8, and other citations are up as well. Traffic accidents sit at 6.7 per month, higher than the typical monthly rate of 5.4.

Meanwhile, several enforcement areas are down. Felony arrests have averaged just 3.5 per month, a significant drop from the five-year average of 6.2. Miles

driven are running lower, down from a typical 2,770 miles per month to 2,396 this year. Criminal summonses are also slightly below average.

Other categories, including domestics, criminal investigations, misdemeanor arrests and traffic warnings, are all running ahead of the historical monthly pace.

MPD appears to be handling a heavier service-oriented workload in 2025 with increased calls, checks and traffic issues, although serious crime is down.

GEAR

Continued from page 1

computers and other needs.

Police Sgt. George Foster, MPD's firearms instructor, said the grant fills a critical financial gap.

"Having equipment like this wouldn't be feasible without help from the AG's office," Foster said. "We typically don't have funds to buy this stuff. We are tickled to get it and the great training

that came along with it."

Foster completed the specialized training provided with the gear and will now share that instruction with fellow officers. The course was delivered by Point Blank, the company supplying the equipment, during a session held last month in Madisonville.

The total value of the awarded equipment is \$39,885 and includes six ballistic helmets, one patrol vest, one ballistic shield, six rifle-vest carriers and a dozen rifle-rated ballistic plates.

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Tourism Commission considering purchase of \$50K digital sign

Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission is close to finalizing plans to erect a digital sign on Main Street at the Imogene Stout Farmers Market.

Over the last two monthly meetings, the commission has discussed details about costs, potential sign resolutions and size. It appears to be leaning toward a 4-foot-by-8-foot sign with either 10mm or 12mm resolution. The sign would be capable of displaying messages with graphics. Costs, including a concrete base and a long-term contract for wireless remote service between the tourism commission headquarters and the sign, will be around \$50,000.

The commission is expected to nail down final details of the plan next month.

At last month’s meeting, the board elected officers for the coming year. Andrea Clement was elected chairman; Jason Hatfield, vice chair; and Mary Ann Campbell, treasurer.

New board members this year are Keith Todd, Charlie Day and Glenn Conger.

Marion native chosen VP of KY Press Assoc.

Allison Shepherd, a Marion native and general manager of the LaRue County Herald News, has been elected vice president of the Kentucky Press Association for 2026. Shepherd, formerly Allison Voss, was chosen from two nominees in a vote of KPA member publishers.

Shepherd has served on the KPA Board since 2019. Under the association’s succession plan, she will become president-elect in 2027, president in 2028 and immediate past president in 2029.

She is married to former Crittenden County Ag Extension



Shepherd

Agent Doug Shepherd.

Her election sets the 2026 KPA Executive Committee as President Mike Scogin of the Georgetown News-Graphic; President-elect Charles Myrick of the Mountain Advocate; Vice President Shepherd; Immediate Past President Dennis Brown of the Lewis County Herald; and Treasurer Bruce Maples of Forward Kentucky. Officers will take office during the KPA Winter Convention Jan. 22-23 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Louisville.

Kentucky continues push to ban kratom

Kentucky’s push to ban 7-hydroxymitragynine took on new urgency last week after federal officials seized about 73,000 units of the concentrated product, valued at roughly \$1 million, from three Missouri firms. The FDA and U.S. Marshals executed the action as concerns grow nationwide about the substance’s potency and its link to opioid-like effects.

The seizure targeted liquid shots, tablets and other dietary items containing concentrated 7-OH, which the FDA says cannot be legally added to supplements or foods. The agency says the ingredient binds to opioid receptors, carries potential for abuse and does not meet safety standards.

The move reinforces Kentucky’s own efforts. Last month, Gov. Andy Beshear announced steps to classify isolated or concentrated 7-OH, along with kratom, as a Schedule I narcotic, making it illegal to sell, possess or distribute in the state.

Law enforcement in Marion says Kratom is being sold at area convenience stores.

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services is updating regulations to add 7-OH to the same category as heroin and LSD. Once finalized, law enforcement and regulators could begin pulling the products from store shelves.

“When kratom is altered to create synthetic opioids, it becomes a threat to public health,” said CHFS Secretary Dr. Steven Stack.



Tabor elected to KCCA district rep

Crittenden County Clerk Daryl K. Tabor has been elected by his peers to represent the First District of the Kentucky County Clerks Association, adding statewide responsibilities as he seeks a second term in office.

Tabor, appointed clerk in 2020 and elected to his first full term in 2022, is running unopposed next year. His new role places him on the association’s decision-making body, where he will represent clerks from the state’s 12 westernmost counties on policy, training standards and legislative priorities.

He was also selected to serve on the KCCA’s Training and Elections Committee, a key group that helps shape how clerk offices statewide handle election administration, staff development and procedural consistency.

The Kentucky County Clerks Association provides training, coordinates legislative advocacy and works to improve operations in clerk offices across all 120 counties. The group focuses on uniform standards for elections, motor vehicle licensing, record-keeping, land records and other public services.

Tabor’s election comes as the association continues to emphasize election security and uniformity. Recent guidance has included support for paper ballots, bipartisan poll workers, pre-election equipment testing and standardized absentee-ballot procedures.

*Between Printed Editions
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HOLIDAY EVENTS AROUND THE AREA



- Community Arts Foundation invites the public to “Lessons & Carols,” a festive holiday event taking place at Fohs Hall this weekend. Performances are scheduled for 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13 and 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 14. The program is inspired by the traditional Anglican service of scripture and song, with unique blends of sacred readings and a wide variety of musical styles, including choral works, handbells, bluegrass and even a Motown. Admission is free, with a free-will offering accepted.
- Cumberland River Homes will host “A Very Merry Christmas Benefit” at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 at Fohs Hall in Marion. The evening will feature holiday music performed by The Todd Hill Quintet with Kayla Marie

Little, comedy by Jamey Ragle and a selection from the Cumberland River Homes choir. Corporate and individual contributions are welcome.

- In Eddyville on Dec. 12, at 6 p.m., will be the annual Christmas Parade. Eddyville’s holiday celebration will feature floats, golf carts, games and festive entertainment as part of the city’s Christmas in the Park. To register call 270-388-2226.
- Deer Creek Baptist Church will host its annual Live Nativity Scene on four consecutive evenings 6-8 p.m., on Saturday, Dec. 13 through Tuesday, Dec. 16 at the church at 69 Deer Creek Road in the Sheridan community.
- Community Arts Foundation will have at 7 p.m., on Dec. 13 and at 2:30 p.m., on Dec. 14 an

event titled Lessons and Carols at Fohs Hall. Experience the beauty of the season through scripture and song, blending choral and instrumental music with readings that reflect the true meaning of Christmas.

- Salem’s Lighted Salem Christmas Parade rained out in late November is rescheduled for 5 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13. This year’s theme is Winter Wonderland. No Santas are allowed on floats, as one will be provided by Salem Fire & Rescue.
- Cookie Craze hosted by Crittenden County Extension will be at the Lions Club Building at 5:30 p.m., on Dec. 15. Decorate cookies and learn holiday baking tips. There will be an optional cookie exchange, too. Bring two dozen cookies and recipes if you’d like to participate.
- Crider Performing Arts Studios will present at 6 p.m., on Dec. 16 an Holiday Recital at Fohs Hall. Come celebrate young performers as students from Crider Performing Arts Studio take the stage in a joyful showcase of talent and creativity.

*Have an event to promote?
Text info to 270-965-3191*

CAROLS

Continued from page 1 something a bit different. Plans developed for a rotation of Christmas events for the middle of December, perhaps on a four-year rotation.

Crider said this type of event will be something novel for Marion, and he believes it’s sure to become a community favorite.

This type of show has deep tradition, traced back to Anglican Archbishop Edward Benson in 1871.

“We’re gonna put our own Marion, Kentucky

2025 modern spin on this timeless tradition,” Crider said, describing a program that moves seamlessly between brief readings and musical pieces that reflect each passage. Crider emphasized that despite the name, the service is not academic or stiff.

“I don’t want people to get scared off about the name lessons and carols. It sounds like we’re going to school. Oh no, it’s just a really compelling almost theatrical dramatic reading of certain sections of scripture all dovetailed into beautiful music that comments and reflects

on that scripture,” he explains.

That music will cover a wide spectrum of styles from classic choral arrangements to bluegrass, handbells, solos and even a Motown-inspired Christmas piece featuring a horn line from Murray State.

Crider said the community response from participants has been exceptional.

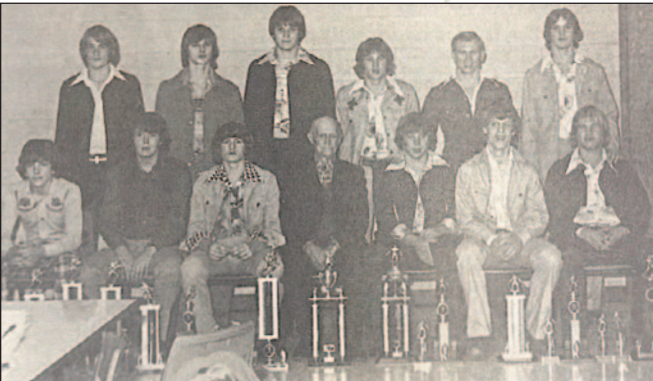
“It really is turning out to be something special. It’s gelling earlier and more cohesively than a lot of things that we’ve been doing,” he said. “I think people are going to

really be surprised at how wonderful it is. It really has the potential to be the holiday season event in our town.”

CAF is keeping future years of the Christmas rotation under wraps for now, but Crider suggests that the Living Christmas Tree will return every four years. New programs with exciting twists will fill the next two seasons.

For now, Crider hopes to see Fohs Hall filled this weekend.

Lessons & Carols is supported in part by the Marion Tourism Commission.



From the Press Archives – 50 Years Ago

Trophy winners from the 1975 Crittenden County Rocket football banquet gathered for this photo alongside honorary team member D.E. Woodall. Front row (from left) are Bart Conway, Tim Binkley, Mark Holloman, Mr. Woodall, Mike Cook, Donnie Mills and Greg Brantley, (back) Pat Taylor, Jimmy Hughes, Danny Hodges, Mark Hamby, Mike Hunt and Don Thomas.

50 YEARS AGO

December 11, 1975

- The Lady Rockets suffered a devastating loss to Marshall County (50-43) due to foul trouble that hampered their performance. Marketa Brown scored 27 points for Crittenden.
- The Rocket football team held its annual end-of-season banquet to honor the squad. Award winners included Bart Conway, Tim Binkley, Mark Holloman, Mike Cook, Donnie Mills, Greg Brantley, Pat Taylor, Jimmy Hughes, Danny Hodges, Mark Hamby, Mike Hunt and Don Thomas. A special award was presented to D.E. Woodall, recognizing him as an honorary member of the “Spirit of ’76” football team at Crittenden County High School.
- Mel Chambers, county director for the Crittenden County ASCS office, announced the results of the Crittenden County ASC Committee elections. Bruce Guess was elected to a three-year term, with Jerry Bruce serving as first alternate and John Claghorn as second alternate.

25 YEARS AGO

December 10, 2000

- Crittenden County Lions Club celebrated its 26th anniversary with its annual banquet. Receiving the highest honor were co-Lions of the Year Junior Martin and Barry Gilbert. Jim Johnson received the Past Presidents Award, and Perry Newcom was recognized as the club’s new president.
- The Rockets earned a big district win over Livingston Central, defeating the Cardinals 68-45, but fell to Trigg County 91-55. Coach Jimmy Croft praised the Rockets’ defense, especially the efforts of Kyle Hart, Matt Mattingly, Landon Driver and Matt Stone.
- Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce Executive Secretary Jeanne Hodge presented the Chamber’s First Dollar Award to Third Necessity in Marion. Receiving the award was owner Cheryl Thomas of Uniontown.

10 YEARS AGO

December 10, 2015

- Emmanuel Baptist Church celebrated its golden anniversary on Founders Day. Darlene Winn, Dixie Watson, Doyle Fritts and Eddie Belt opened a half-century-old time capsule created when the 70 founding members built a house of worship after the Southern Baptist church formed in 1965.
- Samuel Winders of Crittenden County was recognized for his performance at the 2015 Kentucky Farm Bureau Variety Showcase in Louisville. He was honored by Kentucky Farm Bureau Executive Vice President David Beck and Vice President of Agency Support and Marketing Chuck Osborne.
- Carsen Easley of Marion earned all 138 Boy Scout merit badges, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout as a sophomore. In addition to his 138 badges, he earned four Religious Awards and the Medal of Merit for outstanding service.
- The Lady Rockets won three straight games to remain undefeated at the start of their season. Cassidy Moss led Crittenden County with 20 points – 13 in the fourth quarter – despite foul trouble. The Lady Rockets secured a dominant victory over Trigg County with Moss scoring 17 points and Amanda Lynch adding 11.

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

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260

125 E. Bellville St. | P.O. Box 191 | Marion, KY 42064 | 270.965.3191 | www.the-press.com
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Alaina Barnes, creative design / office manager
Jaycee Champion, sales / distribution
Elliot Evans, reporter/sales/distribution

The Crittenden Press (USPS 138-260) is published weekly by The Crittenden Press Inc., P.O. Box 191, 125 E. Bellville St., Marion, KY 42064. Periodicals postage paid at Marion, KY and at additional mailing offices. Subscriptions \$45 to \$86 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Crittenden Press, P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064. Online subscriptions start at \$32 a year.

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Religion

The Crittenden Press

Why are you reading your Bible?

My life as a Christian and a preacher changed several years ago. I realized that I was reading my Bible, but I was not considering why I was reading it. It was not that I didn't know why, it was that the reason was pushing aside other ways to read it. That may sound strange coming from a person who has spent most of my life reading, teaching, and preaching from this book. Or it may be that was the problem. I was reading it to prepare what I was going to say the next time I taught a class or preached a sermon.

That means that there is a decent chance that I was reading this most important of books for an entirely different reason than the people I spoke to on a regular basis. I was reading to try to explain, they were reading to understand. The difference is profound. When I was finally able to let go of trying to defend and embrace understanding, things changed. When I stopped taking an important social topic with an agenda to the text and allowed it to shape me rather than bending it to

fit my narrative, things changed. When I stopped believing that it was me or my denomination that was the door-keeper, things changed.

Do I have it figured out? Not even close. Do I have enough figured out to speak with authority? Not really. Nor does anyone else. It may sound like terrifying religious chaos might ensue if we all believed this. I don't think so, if we agreed on a few things.

A short list might be, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself." "Don't think more highly of yourself than you ought." "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." "Welcome one another, as Christ has welcomed you."

There will always be tension between the practice of faith and the interpretation and teaching of the Bible. These are closely related but not quite the same thing. One need only read of the various factions in the gospels to understand that tension existed in the time before Christ as

well. Still does in the Jewish community, as it does in Christianity.

Now, why do I read my Bible? I had a professor who said to a group of future preachers and scholars that it was necessary to read for one's own growth, not just to prepare for the next lecture, class, or sermon. "Otherwise," he said, "you will run out of soap." And not just the Bible, other literature as well. It may seem obvious, once stated, but I know plenty of professionals who get so engrossed in their vocation that they forget this.

So, here is a short, incomplete, list of some ways to read the Bible. Everyone reading this column has probably done all of these. We need them all. However, some less than others.

Reading for personal spiritual growth. This is where we may set other things aside and listen to what God is saying to us. Personal growth, however, does not occur in a vacuum. It should make us more likely to find a community of believers.

Reading to get through a difficult time. There are few other sources of strength and comfort than the Psalms when faced with challenging times in life. The story of Joseph in Genesis can help us through times of betrayal. The story of Esther helps us to find courage and wisdom to

speak on behalf of others. The gospels pull us toward understanding the challenges of living in a fractured religious society.

Reading as a book of law and doctrine. It is important for us to understand what is expected of us from God. Knowing the Ten Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, and what the prophets say about righteousness and justice are necessary. But the Bible is much more than law and doctrine. To read all of it as such will cause us to potentially miss the greater power and message.

Reading to shape and form thoughts and actions. This reading is done privately and communally. It will form communities of people who believe in God through Christ and his work. Words that we read, recite, and memorize influence us. They get into our thinking and affect our actions. The Bible gives us the shape of our faith in the places that we live. It makes us humble servants of a good and just king so that we can function in the place we are.

Read, and give thought to the "why."

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.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

Consider the needs of others before your own

Question: Last Friday I'd had a bad day at work. On my drive home, the interstate was backed up and traffic was creeping. This guy from behind was changing lanes and barging in front of folks. When he got up with me he nosed in. I was furious. I honked and hollered at him. Looking back, I realized I wasn't very Christian. What would have been a better response for me?

Answer: Look at the big picture. What difference

did it make if he barged his way in front of you? He didn't get to his destination 30 seconds faster by pushing his way in front of others in the traffic jam. Likely, he was more frustrated than anyone in that traffic and his blood pressure was elevated. A better response on your part

would have been to smile at him and let him go before you.

There's a deeper issue involved here. What was your attitude in this chain of events? Why did you not want to give deference to the super-aggressive driver? Was your motive one of selfish ambition and arrogance in not wanting the man to get in front of you?

As Christians, we should think of ourselves as humble servants like

Jesus. He humbled himself to come from heaven to earth and He died an humiliating death on a cross to redeem us from our sin-debt. The Scripture teaches us to "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others" (Phil. 2:3, 4).

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

ASK the PASTOR
By Bob Hardison



Religious Outreach


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

Deer Creek Baptist Church

LIVE NATIVITY

Dec. 13, 14, 15 & 16

6-8 p.m.



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St. William Catholic Church


Sunday Mass 11 a.m.
Father Jojo Joseph
860 S. Main St.
Marion, Ky.
(270) 965-2477

Mexico Baptist Church


Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
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 Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

Marion Baptist Church


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

Crooked Creek Baptist Church


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

Crayne Community Church


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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH


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

PLEASANT GROVE General Baptist Church


growing in grace
2 Peter 3:18
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Sunday School 10 a.m. | Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. | Wed. 7 p.m.

Marion Church of God


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

Marion General Baptist Church
341 West Bellville St., Marion, KY
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. Wesley Lynn
Come Worship With Us!



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Worship 11 a.m.
Bible study 6 p.m.
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Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.



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



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



Frances Community Church
Bro. Butch Gray, Missionary Discipeler
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 Hinchey
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 -



Old postcards keep history alive

Old postcards of yesteryear are priceless to our history. They give us glimpses of pieces of our past, preserving places, events, businesses, homes, and many other wonderful things that are no more. Especially as cameras were not plentiful, and phones that make pictures where a thing of the future. Many postcards give us a picture of things we have read about but were gone from sight before we were able to see them or know the history of them, such as the big event of selling mules and horses around the court square. What an exciting day the old County Court Days were for everyone.



Mule Days Post Card

In the early 1900s Marion was very active in the business of buying, selling and trading of mules and horses. Mules, back in the earlier days, were of the same importance to a farmer as a new tractor or farm implement is today. To be a successful farmer you needed a good team of mules. Each farm family kept from 2-4 work horses and mules. From the archives of The Crittenden Press, let's learn of some of the importance of these animals and their history in Crittenden County.

September 15, 1910

Monday was a Banner Day; a big crowd was in town with stock, leaving more than \$20,000 in our two banks. On Monday morning bright and early, people commenced to congregate in Marion from all parts of Crittenden, Livingston and Caldwell counties, with a goodly number of prominent stockmen and buyers from Morganfield and Hopkinsville. There were more fine horses and mules exhibited and sold at good prices than ever known on any previous day in the history of Marion, more than \$20,000 being left on deposit in our two banks. The greatest number of mules bought by any one buyer went to R. M. Young of Morganfield. They numbered 25 and were all last spring's mules. The price paid averaged \$100. While Crittenden County is noted for fine mules, the display Monday was far in advance of that of any previous occasion.



County Court Day

County Court Day was a much anticipated event. County Court Day owed its importance not only to the fact that it was then that some of the business of the county was attended to, but also that accused law breakers were called before the bar of justice to give account of their alleged misdemeanors and judged innocent or have their sentence pronounced upon them. This day was also greatly enjoyed in a social way by the people of the rural communities, when great numbers of them gathered at the county seat and enjoyed meetings with their friends and kinsfolk from other communities. It was also a time when

lawyers, court officials and many other people from surrounding counties came into Marion.

Much fine stock was exhibited on the street all around the Court Square, which made it look like a county fair. Just across from the courthouse a doctor selling headache medicine was alternately entertaining a large crowd with an entertainment and selling his medicine. He had the crowd and sold the medicine. His show was exciting enough for people to even gather on the roof on the buildings on West Bellville Street. The building on the far right, is recognizable even today, as the former Western Auto Store.



Brenda Underdown
County Historian

Forgotten Passages



The Marion Depot

The railroad track was constructed through Crittenden County from 1886-87. In the fall of 1887 the first train ran on the tracks through Crittenden County. This new enterprise needed a depot to complete this wonderful project. The depot was constructed soon after the railroad was completed through the county and the trains were running regularly. It was built right next to the tracks. The depot was a vital part of the railroad. In the early 1900s, it was the largest shipping depot for fluorspar, lead and zinc in the world. Four passenger trains ran north and south dai-

ly. It was said that nearly everything that came to the town of Marion or left the town founds its way to the I. C. R. R. depot. By the 1930s and 40s, the train passenger travel had fallen off to the mode of car and truck. The depots were still used and needed but not as much as before, and they were soon not in much demand. In 1985 Marion's old depot structure was torn down. Not many people realized at the time the history the building represented and what a historical building it would one day be.



The Marion Bank

This postcard shows the newly constructed Marion Bank in September 1920. It was the third structure for the bank. The first built in 1890 was destroyed in the great 1905 fire that destroyed all of Marion's downtown district. The second was built that same year, a beautiful cream brick structure, and it would be destroyed by fire again on

July 22, 1919. This new building was finally completed and ready for use in September 1920. They moved into this new building on Sept. 7, 1920. It was stated that undoubtedly it was the most beautiful banking quarters in this part of the state. Officers were: J. W. Blue, Jr., president; Sam Gugenheim, vice pres.; J. V. Hayden, second vice pres.; T. J. Yandell, cashier; J. V. Threlkeld, Neil Guess, and Katherine Yandell, assistant cashiers; and May Cook, bookkeeper. The Marion Bank closed its doors in 1930 and merged with the Farmers Bank and Trust Co. In September 1946, the Peoples Bank opened for business in the old Marion bank building. The bank looked like this until 1971 when they enlarged and remodeled the whole building as it looks today.

If you are fortunate enough to have some of these wonderful old postcards from yesteryear, you not only have a beautiful vintage postcard, you have a small and important piece of our history. Preserve them well. (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).



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Technology

1. (8 items, 1 bid per item, or number of items) HP Elite Desk 800 CPU tower, Windows 10 pro Operating System, no software
2. (2 items, 1 bid per item, or number of items) Dell OptiPlex 7010 mid-size tower, Windows 10 pro Operating System, no software

The Crittenden County Public Library will accept sealed bids for the above items from 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025 through 5:00 p.m., Thursday, December 18, 2025, during regular library hours. Contact CCPL at (270)965-3354 for sale details and bid forms. Items can be viewed on the library website at <https://crittendenlibrary.org>. Note: Surplus items may be donated to a Kentucky public library system or government agency operating in Crittenden County, or any philanthropic, education, cultural, governmental, or other 501©(3) not-for-profit groups.

All bids due on or before 5pm Thursday, Dec. 18, 2025.

You May Qualify For A Discount On Your TDS Communication Services

If you think you can't afford service, think again. You may qualify for a discount on your service through a low-income government program called Lifeline. Lifeline reduces monthly services for qualifying voice, internet, or bundled services.

You may be eligible if you participate in a qualifying assistance program such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, or if you have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Go to <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/do-i-qualify/> for a full list of qualifying programs.

In addition, survivors of domestic violence facing financial hardship may receive the Lifeline benefit for up to six months under the Safe Connections Act (SCA).

For more information on the Lifeline program possible discount amounts, or how to apply, visit the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) website at <https://www.lifelinesupport.org>. Call USAC at 1-800-234-9473 for specific Lifeline questions.

Call TDS at 888-CALL-TDS or visit www.tdstelecom.com/lifeline.html with questions regarding program eligibility or general Lifeline questions.

Lifeline is a government assistance program and is non-transferable. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. There is a limit of one discount per household. Lifeline discounts on internet service are only available where minimum supported broadband service is available. If the household becomes ineligible for Lifeline, the household will be subject to TDS' regular rates, terms, and conditions.



213182KY/10-25/12780

ATTENTION LAND OWNERS

KENTUCKY LAND IS IN DEMAND. REALIZE FULL MARKET VALUE IN THE SALE OF YOUR RECREATIONAL PROPERTY. WHITETAIL PROPERTIES OFFERS A DIVERSE PLATFORM OF SELLING OPTIONS INCLUDING CONVENTIONAL LISTINGS AND PROFESSIONAL AUCTION SERVICES. IT'S NO MISTAKE THAT LAND SELLERS ACROSS THE MIDWEST HAVE ENTRUSTED THEIR LAND SALE TO US. WHITETAIL PROPERTIES HAS AN EXTENSIVE NETWORK AND CLIENT BASE THAT REACHES THE ENTIRE NATION AND INCLUDES FARMERS, SPORTSMEN, INVESTORS AND HUNTING PROFESSIONALS.

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT KENTUCKY LAND SPECIALIST, MARK WILLIAMS (270) 836-0819

NEW! Crittenden County, KY – 8.51 Acres - \$199,900

This 8.51+/- acre property with shop, utilities, and open ground in Crittenden County, Kentucky is a great investment or business location with plenty of space for expansion and equipment.

NEW! Crittenden County, KY – 20.50 Acres - \$100,450

This 20.5+/- acre tract in Crittenden County, Kentucky offers diverse timber, food plot potential, established trails, and excellent deer and turkey hunting habitat with build site opportunities.

NEW! Crittenden County, KY – 30.91 Acres - \$151,459

This 30.91+/- acres in Crittenden County, Kentucky offers prime deer and turkey hunting with food plot potential, diverse timber, trail system, and build site opportunities.

REDUCED! Crittenden County, KY – 13.42 Acres - \$649,900

This stunning hobby farm offers the perfect blend of comfort, space, and functionality in a quiet rural setting. Includes a 6-bedroom, 4-bathroom home, two-car attached garage, two shops and a barn.

Crittenden County, KY – 12.42 Acres - \$357,500

This 12.42+/- acre tract features a brick 3 bed/2 bath one-level home with stainless steel appliances, island kitchen, covered porch and back patio. Also includes a barn, fenced pasture, workshop, and mixed use opportunities.

Crittenden County, KY – 16.41 Acres - \$335,000

This 16.41+/- acres near Marion features a 3 bed/2 bath, 1,760 sq. ft. home with new metal roof, open concept, stainless steel appliances, partial covered deck, 3-car garage, two ponds, and pasture and woods mix.

Crittenden County, KY – 70 Acres - \$244,900

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.

Crittenden Co. KY 175 Acres - \$774,900

This 175+/- acres in Crittenden County includes a rustic 2BR, 1BA cabin, food plots, blinds, ponds, Coefield Creek, and diverse habitat. Prime layout for whitetail and turkey hunting with multiple access points.

Crittenden Co. KY 401.50 Acres - \$2,290,000

401+/- acres in Crittenden County with a 4BR lodge, proven hunting history, food plots, blinds, creeks, pond, and diverse habitat managed for trophy deer and turkey. Turn-key and ready to hunt.

Crittenden & Union Counties, KY – 4,291 Acres – OFFERED IN MULTIPLE TRACTS – CONTACT AGENT!

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.

Crittenden Co. & Webster Co. KY 159.913 Acres - \$499,000

This 159+/- acre property in Crittenden and Webster Counties includes a 2BR home, garage, 2.35 miles of Tradewater River frontage, WRP habitat, blinds, food plot sites and proven hunting history.

Livingston County, KY – 88 Acres - \$288,200.00
Livingston County, KY – 105 Acres – \$357,000.00
Livingston County, KY – 159 Acres – \$520,725.00
Livingston County, KY – 161 Acres - \$547,400.00
Livingston County, KY – 353 Acres - \$1,129,600.00
Livingston County, KY – 718 Acres - \$2,243,750.00
Livingston County, KY - 989 Acres - \$3,016,450.00

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 – 2 Acres - \$35,000

This 2+/- acre commercial lot in Marion city limits features flat terrain with shade trees, 700 feet of road frontage, utilities, and a prime build site near the park.

SOLD! Crittenden Co. KY 0.50 Acre - \$144,900

Three-bed, 1.5-bath home with open living area, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, newer roof, carport, storage, yard, washer/dryer access on half-acre lot in Marion city limits.

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 13.99 Acres - \$124,900

This 13+/- acres includes a 3BR, 2BA home in Crittenden County, quiet rural setting with outbuildings, yard, food plot areas, timbered ridges, and deer and turkey hunting opportunities.


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Classifieds

The Crittenden Press

sales

8 a.m.-2 p.m., Friday & Saturday, Dec. 12 & 13 at Rozann's Place in Salem. New & slightly used toys, would make perfect Christmas gifts plus new & gently used tools, Christmas décor and more. A little bit of everything! (2t-49-p)

services

CONCRETE WORK: Parking lots, garages, steel buildings, walls, sidewalks, driveways, room additions, rock driveways, clean ditches. Call for quote (270) 724-4672, Joe Mattingly Concrete Construction. (12t-52-p)

legal notice

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 25-CI-00053
FIFTH THIRD BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, PLAINTIFF
SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO FIFTH THIRD BANK N.A. (SOUTHERN INDIANA) v.
JOHN LIZAK
1776 STATE ROUTE 1668
MARION, KY 42064
UNKNOWN SPOUSE, IF ANY OF JOHN LIZAK,
1776 STATE ROUTE 1668
MARION, KY 42064
FIFTH THIRD MORTGAGE COMPANY
C/O CORPORATE SERVICE COMPANY
REGISTERED AGENT
421 WEST MAIN STREET
FRANKFORT, KY 40601
UNKNOWN OCCUPANT, IF ANY, NAME UNKNOWN
108 NORTH CLAY STREET
MARION, KY 42064
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,
COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN
C/O PERRY NEWCOM,
JUDGE EXECUTIVE
200 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE,
SUITE A
MARION, KY 42064
DEFENDANTS
NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to a Judgment and Order of Sale and to satisfy the judgment of the Plaintiff in the above styled action, the Commissioner will offer for sale on or about the hour of 10:00 a.m., Monday December 22, 2025, at public auction to the highest bidder at the Crittenden County Office Complex at 200 Industrial Drive (the Crittenden County Courthouse being under demolition), Marion, Kentucky, the following described property: PROPERTY ADDRESS: 108 North Clay Street, Marion, Kentucky, 42064

PARCEL NO.: 070-40-13-006.00
All iron pins set are 1/2x24" rebar with a plastic cap stamped "B.J. MAY L.S. 878". BEGINNING at a 2" iron pipe found on the east side of and 20 feet from the center of North Clay Street, corner to Arflack (d.b. 115 p.208), and being 308.4 ft. south of the center of Old Shady Grove Road; thence leaving the street and with Arflack's line S. 88 deg. 09 min. 40 sec. E. 135.71 ft. to a 2" iron pipe found, corner to Arflack (d.b. 137 p.128); thence with his line S. 86 deg. 32 min. 16 sec. E. 129.36 ft. to 1/2" rebar found in Pugh's line (d.b. 191 p.480); thence with his lines S. 01 deg. 31 min. 07 sec. W. 171.92 ft. to a 36" cherry tree, and S. 07 deg. 52 min. 49 sec. E. 9.89 ft. to a 1/2" rebar found with a plastic cap stamped "B.J. MAY L.S. 878", in Elvis James' line (d.b. 164 p.433), thence with his lines S. 69 deg. 59 min. 41 sec. W., passing another of his corners (d.b. 157 p.348), in all 38.62 ft. to an iron pin set, corner to Tract 3; thence with the north line of Tract 3 N. 85 deg. 02 min. 09 sec. W 59.94 ft., to an iron pin set, corner to Tract 2; thence with the north line of Tract 2 N. 85 deg. 02 min. 48 sec. W. 92.56 ft. to a 1/2" iron rebar found, corner to Winders (d.b. 141 p.544); thence with her line N. 85 deg. 02 min. 48 sec. W. 92.14 ft. a 1/2" rebar found on the east side of and 20 feet from the center of N. Clay St.; thence with the east side of the street N. 05 deg. 32 min. 58 sec. E. 186.82 ft. to the beginning, containing 1.20 acres, more or less, according to a survey by Billy J. May L.S. 878 of J & J LAND SURVEYS on July 19, 2002.

Being all of that certain property conveyed to John Lizak and his wife Betty L. Lizak from Elvis Wayne James and wife Robin James for their joint lives with the remainder to the survivor in fee simple by Deed dated 08/16/2003 and recorded 08/18/2003 in volume 196, Page 717 in the land records of Crittenden County, Kentucky. Pursuant to right of survivorship, John Lizak became the sole owner of the above described property upon the death of his spouse, Betty Lizak, who died on or about June 14, 2016.

ALL REFERENCES HEREIN TO THE CRITTENDEN COUNTY COURT CLERK'S OFFICE.

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY CONVEYED HEREIN WAS PROVIDED TO THE DRAFTSMAN BY

THE PLAINTIFF AND THE DRAFTSMAN DOES NOT CERTIFY THE ACCURACY OF THE SAME NOR ANY EXISTING EASEMENTS

Terms: The following terms are in effect unless otherwise mentioned above:
At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay full cash or make a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. If the purchase price is not paid in full, the successful bidder shall execute a bond at the time of sale with sufficient surety to secure the unpaid balance of the purchase price. The bond shall bear interest at the rate of 6% from the date of sale until paid. In the event the successful bidder is one of the parties, they shall be allowed a credit against the purchase price of their pro rata interest and pay over to the Master Commissioner the balance and any costs of sale apportioned to their interest in the property. The purchaser shall be responsible for ad valorem taxes for the year 2025 and subsequent years. No written bids are allowed and any announcements made at the sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein. To the extent applicable, the property will be sold subject to the statutory right of redemption.

The Master Commissioner does not warrant title. The Master Commissioner only conveys pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale. The successful bidder has 10 days after the sale to examine title and file exceptions.

Dated this the 3rd day of Dec., 2025.
REBECCA J. JOHNSON
MASTER COMMISSIONER
217 WEST BELLVILLE STREET
P.O. BOX 415
MARION, KENTUCKY 42064
270-965-2222

bid notices

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for snow removal and/or debris removal and/or tree cutting services for 2026. All bids must be submitted to the County Judge Executive's office, 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064, or email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject box. Bidders must show proof of liability insurance, provide equipment size(s) and price per hour of operation or price per tree to be cut. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, contact the office of the Judge Executive on 270-965-5251. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for the application of Chip and Seal, single and double layer, on various roads in Crittenden County during 2026. All bids must be submitted to the County Judge Executive's office, 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064, or email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject box. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, contact the office of the Judge Executive on 270-965-5251. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for the application of bituminous hot mix asphalt on various roads in Crittenden County for 2026. All bids must state the price per applied

ton as well as the FOB price if available. Bids may include the price for any or all of the following mixes: base, binder, and surface asphalt; and shall meet KYTC Std. Spec. for Road and Bridge Const. Sect. 403.03.01. All bids must be submitted to the County Judge Executive's office, 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064, or email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject box. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, contact the office of the Judge Executive on 270-965-5251. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for FOB pricing on all aggregate materials for 2026. All bids must be submitted to the County Judge Executive's office, 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064, or email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject box. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, contact the office of the Judge Executive on 270-965-5251. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for RS-2 Oil delivered in bulk to the county road garage for 2026. All bids must be submitted to the County Judge Executive's office, 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064, or email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during the regularly scheduled meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject box. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, contact the office of the Judge Executive on 270-965-5251. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for the following lubricant products delivered to the county road garage for 2026. Items include SAE 15-40

that meets CAT, ECF-3, API, CJ-4, and ACEA E9 specs; SAE 5-20 Synthetic Motor Oil that meets API SN specs; ATF D/M GM Dexron IIIH, Allison C-4, and Ford Mercon transmission fluids; DEF fuel additive; and 120-pound Barrel Grease EP-2. All bids must be submitted to the County Judge Executive's office, 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064, or email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject box. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, contact the County Road Supervisor on 270-969-1772. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for 2026 on the following products to be delivered to the county road garage located at 1901 U.S. 60 E. Marion KY 42064. Items being accepted for bid are 12 ga. Metal culverts sizes ranging from 12" to 42" diameter and various lengths plain and coated and round and arched, and N-12

plastic culverts sizes ranging from 12" to 42" diameter and 4" perforated and non-perforated coils. Also being bid are connection bands for both types of culverts. All bids must be submitted to the County Judge Executive's office, 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064, or email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject line. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, please contact the County Road Supervisor at 270-969-1772. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for portable toilet services for 2026. All bids must be submitted to the county Judge Executive's office at 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064 or by email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject line. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, please contact the Judge Executive's office at 270-965-5251. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

ation during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject line. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, please contact the Judge Executive's office at 270-965-5251. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

BID NOTICE: The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for the Pest Control services on all county owned facilities for 2026. A list of addresses and facilities can be obtained by calling the Judge Executive's office. All bids must be submitted to the county Judge Executive's office at 200 Industrial Dr., Ste. A, Marion KY 42064 or by email at kristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org by 4:30 p.m. CST December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened by the bid review committee of the Fiscal Court on December 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and presented to Fiscal Court for consideration during a special meeting of the Fiscal Court on December 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope or in the subject line. If you have any questions regarding this bid notice, please contact the Judge Executive's office at 270-965-5251. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

NOTICE OF SALE OF FRANCHISE

By virtue of an ordinance heretofore passed by the City Council of Fredonia, Kentucky, directing the advertisement for bids and selling of a franchise to use certain streets, alleys, and public grounds of the City of Fredonia, Kentucky for the purpose of owning, operating, equipping and maintaining a system for the transmission and distribution of electric energy. The City Clerk of Fredonia will on January 20, 2026, at or about 7 p.m., sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the City Hall of Fredonia, a franchise for the purpose set out.

Said franchise is more particularly described and fully defined in a proposed ordinance granting and creating the same and said proposed ordinance defines the terms and conditions upon which said sale shall be made, the full text of which is available for inspection in the office of the Fredonia City Clerk, 312 Cassidy Avenue, Fredonia, Kentucky.

The ordinance by title and summary is as follows: ORDINANCE #10-20-2025. AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY, AND THE PROVISION OF RETAIL ELECTRIC SERVICE IN AREAS HERETOFORE SERVED BY KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CITY OF FREDONIA

ORDINANCE NO. 10-20-25

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A FRANCHISE FOR THE ERECTION, LAYING AND MAINTENANCE OF ELECTRIC FACILITIES AND APPURTENANT FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT IN, ALONG AND ACROSS THE PUBLIC WAYS, ROADS, STREETS, ALLEYS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES IN THE CITY OF FREDONIA, KENTUCKY; FOR FURNISHING AND SELLING ELECTRICITY BY MEANS OF SAID FACILITIES; AND PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF SAID FRANCHISE.

WHEREAS, the City of Fredonia ("City") wishes to ensure that electric service continues to be furnished to its citizens in a reliable and efficient manner;

WHEREAS, the City is aware that the provision of such service requires the continued use of public streets, ways, alleys and other public places;

WHEREAS, the franchise granted to and acquired by Kentucky Utilities Company on April 17, 2016, under which that utility provided such service, will expire by its terms, April 17, 2026.

WHEREAS, the City wishes to provide for the sale of a new franchise for the benefit of its citizenry, giving effect to Section 96.010 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED as follows:

Section 1.
An exclusive franchise ("Franchise") to use the City's public rights-of-way, as described in the Franchise Agreement attached to this Ordinance, is hereby created.

Section 2.
The Franchise created by this Ordinance shall be bid in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and Chapter 424 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, as well as any applicable City ordinances.

Section 3.
The Franchise created by this Ordinance shall be awarded to the highest and best bidder as shall be determined by the City in its sole discretion. In awarding the Franchise, the City shall consider the technical, managerial, and financial qualifications of the bidder to perform its obligations under the Franchise.

Section 4.
The winning bidder and the City shall negotiate, execute and be bound by a Franchise Agreement with terms identical to, or substantially identical to, the Franchise Agreement referenced in Section 1 above and attached hereto, such Agreement to contain terms "that are fair and reasonable to the City, to the purchaser of the Franchise and to the patrons of the utility" (KRS Section 96.010). Such Franchise Agreement shall become effective with the first billing cycle on or after the expiration of the existing franchise agreement, to allow the City and the winning bidder to develop appropriate procedures for identifying and reviewing the electric-consuming entities within the City's corporate limits.

Section 5.
All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6.
Should any section, clause, line, paragraph, or part of this Ordinance or the attached Agreement be held unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the same shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance or the attached Agreement, as applicable.

Section 7.
Time is of the essence in carrying out the terms and the provisions of this Ordinance and the Franchise created herein.

Section 8.
This Ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage and publication. Read at a meeting of the Fredonia City Council on the 20th day of October, 2025; a second reading was held on the 17th day of November, 2025; said Ordinance was READ and APPROVED on the 17th day of November, 2025.

Signed Mayor
Jim Seibert

ATTESTED BY
City Clerk
Rachael Vickrey

M

G

&

- plumbing
- septic tanks
- dirt work

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BASKETBALL
Upcoming Ball Games

THURSDAY
Rockets at Foundation Christian

FRIDAY
Lady Rockets at Livingston Central
Rockets at Livingston Central

SATURDAY
Lady Rockets vs Calloway at Paducah
Rockets at Russellville

TUESDAY
Lady Rockets host Lyon County
Rockets at Lyon County

Middle school results

Here is scoring from recent Crittenden County Middle School games.

8th Grade Girls Monday
Crittenden 31, John Paul 22
M.Penn 15, Nelson 5, Hearrell 3, Mattingly 4, Binkley 4.

5th District 7th Grade Tournament

GIRLS

LAST WEEKEND’S RESULTS
Semifinal Round
Crittenden 46, Livingston 23
M.Penn 3, Nelson 11, Hearrell 7, Mattingly 11, Binkley 12, Kinnis 2.

Championship Game
Lyon County 33, Crittenden Co. 26
M.Penn 4, Nelson 8, Hearrell 2, Mattingly 6, Binkley 4, K.Penn 2.

5th District 7th Grade Tournament

BOYS

LAST WEEKEND’S RESULTS
Semifinal Round
Crittenden 34, Caldwell 32
Moss 18, Polk 4, Merrill 7, Martin 2, Boone 1, Taylor 2.

Championship Game
Crittenden 39, Lyon 27
Moss 11, Polk 4, Merrill 5, Taylor 16, Polk 3.

5th District 8th Grade Tournament

Girls at Burna

Opening Round Thursday, 5:30pm
Crittenden County vs Trigg County

Semifinal Saturday, noon
Crittenden/Trigg vs Lyon County

Saturday’s Championship
3pm at Livingston Middle School

Boys at Burna

Semifinal Saturday, 10:30am
Crittenden Co. vs Lyon County

Saturday’s Championship
4:30pm at Livingston Middle School

OUTDOORS
Hunting Seasons

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

Deer archery	Sept 6 - Jan 19
Turkey archery	Sept 6 - Jan 19
Deer crossbow	Sept 20 - Jan 19
Raccoon	Oct 1 - Feb 28
Turkey crossbow	Nov 8 - Dec 31
Bobcat trapping	Nov 10 - Feb 28
Squirrel	Nov 10 - Feb 28
Quail	Nov 10 - Feb 10
Rabbit	Nov 10 - Feb 10
Raccoon trapping	Nov 10 - Feb 28
Woodcock	Nov 10 - Dec 10
Coyote trapping	Nov 10 - Feb 28
Bobcat	Nov 15 - Feb 28
Canada goose	Nov 27 - Feb 15
Snow Ross goose	Nov 27 - Feb 15
White-fronted goose	Nov 27 - Feb 15
Coyote night, lights	Dec 1 - March 31
Turkey shotgun	Dec 6 - Dec 12
Duck	Dec 7 - Jan 31
Deer muzzleloader	Dec 13-21
Dove	Dec 20 - Jan 11
Deer Free Youth	Dec 27-28
Crow	Jan 4 - Feb 28
Youth waterfowl	Feb 14
Coyote daytime	Year Round
Ground hog	Year Round



Tucker Owen, 11, havested this deer last day of rifle season in Crittenden County. The late muzzleloader season opens this weekend.

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County improved to 3-1 Tuesday with a 56-49 win over McCracken County, the First Region’s No. 3 team, in a tightly contested matchup at Rocket Arena.

The Lady Rockets erased an early eight-point deficit to tie it 25-25 at halftime.

Crittenden took control in the third as Anna Boone’s three sparked a run to a 39-27 lead before McCracken closed the gap to 39-36 entering the fourth. Andrea Federico and Elliott Evans hit key threes to keep the Rockets in front as the pace intensified.

Down the stretch, Crittenden slowed the game and executed in the half court. Jordyn Hodge’s late jumper and steady free-throw shooting from Bristyn Rushing and Hodge sealed the win.

Federico led Crittenden with 13 points. Boone and Rushing added 12 apiece, and Hodge scored 11. The Lady Rockets visit Livingston Central on Friday to open district play.

Girls win at Breckinridge

Crittenden County discovered once again that when the Lady Rockets get to the foul line, good things happen. In a tough road environment



Lady Rocket senior Georgia Holeman steals the ball from a Marshall County player.

at Breckinridge County, CCHS overcame early turnovers and foul trouble to rally from an 11-point deficit and win 54-50 on Saturday.

Breckinridge, the preseason No. 1 team in Region 3, opened with a blistering 21-point first quarter while Crittenden struggled to take care of the ball. Star guard Anna Boone, who scored CCHS’s first eight points, collected her third foul with 6:18 left in the second quarter and sat the remainder of the half. Still, the Rockets held steady, trailing just 29–24 at the break.

Momentum swung in the third when Boone returned briefly to bury a 3-pointer off

a high screen, pulling CCHS within one. Moments later, the Rockets surged ahead 32-29 by attacking the rim. Boone’s fourth foul late in the period forced her back to the bench, and Crittenden trailed 38-34 entering the fourth.

But in the final quarter, Crittenden’s defensive pressure and free-throw shooting took over.

Nearly automatic at the stripe, Boone, Elliot Evans, and Jordyn Hodge combined to hit big free throws in the final two minutes and finished 20-of-26 at the stripe.

Loss at Marshall County

Crittenden County hung close early but foul trouble and Marshall County’s defensive pressure proved too much Thursday as the Hoopfest host Lady Marshals pulled away for a 59-45 win.

The matchup featured two preseason No. 2 teams – Marshall in Region 1 and Crittenden in Region 2 – and Marshall showed why it’s a traditional west Kentucky powerhouse, jumping passing lanes, applying physical half-court pressure and knocking down timely 3-pointers. The Lady Marshals limited clean looks for Crittenden senior guard Anna Boone, who bat-

tled foul issues throughout and picked up her fourth late in the third quarter.

The game remained close the entire way, but CCHS couldn’t get over the hump.

McCracken County 11 25 36 49
Crittenden County 12 25 39 56
McCRACKEN – Hughes 18, Houser 7, Casebier 1, Hill 20, Clements 14. FG 20. 3-pointers 4 (Hughes 2, Houser, Clements). FT 5-8.
CRITTENDEN – Boone 12, Evans 6, Hodge 11, Federico 13, Rushing 12, Stewart 2. FG 21. 3-pointers 5 (Evans 2, Boone 2, Federico). FT 9-11.

Crittenden County 10 24 34 54
Breckinridge Co. 21 29 38 50
CRITTENDEN – Boone 16, Evans 11, Hodge 10, Federico 5, Rushing 10, Holeman, Stewart 2, Berry. FG 15. 3-pointers 4 (Boone 4). FT 20-26.
BRECKINRIDGE - Greenwell 5, Moorman 6, Henning, Grimes 15, Radaszewai 12, Mitcham 9, Carey 3. FG 16. 3-pointers 5. FT 8-12.

Crittenden County 12 19 25 45
Marshall County 12 23 39 55
CRITTENDEN - Boone 17, Evans 12, Hodge 9, Federico 1, Stewart 2, Berry 4, Rushing, Holeman, Champion. FG 13. 3-pointers 5 (Evans 3, Hodge 2). FT 14-19.
MARSHALL – Sandlin 14, Terry 22, Wall 7, Darnell 3, Teague 1, Reed 2, Nobles 6. FG 19. 3-pointers 5 (Sandlin 2, Terry 2, Darnell). FT 12-18.

STAFF REPORT

Four games into the season, Crittenden County is still looking for its first win. The Rockets were over-matched Tuesday at home against Union County, losing 94-20.

Union raced out to a 23-0 lead, draining threes and operating with impunity until the running clock was enforced. CCHS plays at Livingston on Friday to open district play.

The Rockets also lost on the road Monday at Hopkins Central 87-43 as Brady Dayberry led scoring with 15.

At Hickman, CCHS fades late

The Rockets completed a grueling three-game road series late last week without a win after falling 69-37 at Hickman County Saturday.

The boys fell behind early at Hickman but stayed within striking distance until midway through the third period and still had some shots late.

Rockets downed at army base

Crittenden County fell behind early and was never able to get its feet underneath the offense as Fort Campbell beat the Rockets 89-54 on the Army base Friday in a game that featured almost 50 foul

whistles.

CCHS had trouble simply getting off shots from the out-set and trailed by double digits early as the Falcons scored eight of their 26 first-quarter points at the foul line. CCHS was called for 25 fouls in the game and Fort Campbell 23, but the hosts dropped in 22 from the charity stripe compared to Crittenden’s 12.

Brady Dayberry led CCHS in scoring with 15 – the only Rocket in double figures.

CCHS knocked off at Hoopfest

Crittenden County fell 66-44 Tuesday in its season opener to New Covenant Christian Academy, a non-KHSAA opponent, after the Lions broke open a close first half with a dominant third quarter in the opening game of the Marshall County Hoopfest.

The Rockets led at times early and trailed only 26-23 at the half, with NCCA hitting a 3-pointer at the buzzer to take the lead. But the Lions took control after the break, surging to a 53-33 advantage by the end of the third and continuing to pull away in the fourth.

Union County 33 60 78 94



CCHS guard Drake Young looks to pass during Hoopfest.

Crittenden County 3 11 16 20
UNION – Patterson 18, Curry 32, Johnson 12, Black 12, Tamayo 3, Wilson 11, Rapier 6. FG 31. 3-pointers 9. FT 5-10.
CRITTENDEN – Ellington 1, Bumpus, Bryant, Topp 4, Dayberry 2, Jones 1, Hutchison, Martin 7, C.Poindexter 1, Murray, B.Poindexter 2, Counts, Collins. FG 8. 3-pointers none. FT 4-11.

Crittenden County 19 24 40 43
Hopkins Central 34 61 78 87
CRITTENDEN – Ellington 3, Porters 3, Bumpus 2, Topp 10, Dayberry 15, Martin 3, B.Poindexter 7, Bryant, Jones, Hutchison, C.Poindexter, Murray, Counts. FG 16. 3-pointers (Porter, Topp, Dayberry, Hutchison). FT 7-10.
HOPKINS CENTRAL – Pettus 13, Butcher 18, Sumner 15, Stephens 3, Trejo 6, Jagoe 10, Smith 12, Stone 8, Miller 2. FG 29. 3-pointers 9. FT 20-23.

Crittenden County 6 19 26 37
Hickman County 15 30 45 69
CRITTENDEN – Ellington 2, Porter, Bryant 4, Topp 4, Bumpus 4, Dayberry 7, Young 3, Martin 1, C.Poindexter 5, B.Poindexter 7. FG 11. 3-pointers 2 (Young, Topp). FT 13-19.
HICKMAN – Rosas 13, Grubbs 3, Byassee 2, Irons 28, Boaz 4, Spraggs 2, Ware 5, Grimmitt 2, Lu.Grimmitt 6, Polsgrove 1, Deweese 3. FG 29. 3-pointers 5. FT 6-11.

Crittenden Co. 9 19 38 54
Fort Campbell 26 42 61 89
CRITTENDEN – Ellington, Porter 3, Bryant, Topp 6, Dayberry 15, Jones 1, Young 3, Hutchison, Bumpus 3, Martin 7, C.Poindexter 6, Murray 2, B.Poindexter 8, Counts, Collins. FG 21. 3-pointers none. FT 12-26.
FT CAMPBELL – Ferguson 14, Tow 12, Baker 3, Vannatta 21, Morton 8, Anthony 23, Tatum 4, Davis 2. FG 30. 3-pointers 7. FT 22-37.

Crittenden County 14 23 33 44
Covenant Christian 11 26 53 66
CRITTENDEN – Ellington 8, Porter, Bryant, Topp 10, Dayberry 1, Jones, Young 16, Martin 5, C.Poindexter, B.Poindexter 4, Counts. FG 18. 3-pointers 7 (Ellington 2, Young 4, Martin). FT 1-2.
NCCA – Crider Cunningham 15, Jackson 8, Stranger 3, Vaughn 6, Finley Cunningham 20, Thomas, Smith 12, Wheat. FG 26. 3-pointers 8 (C.Cunningham 4, F.Cunningham 3, Smith). FT 6-6.

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Braydin Brandsasse
Lineman



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Dokota Sosh
DB / Receiver



Joel Bumpus
Linebacker



Eli Lovell
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Students draw up slower snow plan

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

The snowfall last week may not have warranted the use of a snowplow, but when heavier winter weather does strike, be on the lookout for a special Rocket design hitting the streets of Marion. For the third year in a row, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has implemented its “Paint the Plow” program, giving high school students the opportunity to put their creativity to work by painting snowplow blades with original designs. More than 100 plows have been transformed with artwork celebrating school spirit and promoting winter driving safety, and Crittenden County joined those numbers this year. Led by high school art

teacher Elizabeth Rodriguez, this year’s plow features the slogan “Slow Down When Snow’s Down” and an iconic snowy scene with the Rocket mascot. Rodriguez said the initial design work was submitted in early September. Shortly thereafter, she learned CCHS had been chosen, and the Transportation Cabinet delivered the plow blade to the school for painting. “I was assisted in completing this project by my Art I and Advanced Art students, as well as my teacher’s aide,” Rodriguez said. “All of these students also happen to be members of the newly formed chapter of the National Art Honor Society



Cassie Guess and other classmates painted the snow plow, which is pictured at top.

at CCHS.” Once painting was completed, the Transportation Cabinet picked up the snowplow blade and readied it for use. If you happen to catch a glimpse of it this winter, remember to slow down when snow’s down – and thank Rodriguez and her students for bringing some color to an otherwise drab winter day.



Staci’s coming to print in 2026

The Crittenden Press is adding a fresh, creative voice to its pages in 2026. Beginning in January, Staci Blackburn will join our team as a monthly lifestyle contributor, offering readers practical inspiration in food, cooking, decorating, DIY projects, home design and the everyday creativity that makes a house feel like home. Blackburn, a Marion native with an associate’s degree in Interior Design, brings both technical training and real-life resourcefulness to her column. Before returning home, she lived in Nashville for three years and worked in areas far beyond what most people imagine when they think of interior design. Her background includes drafting building plans, using AutoCAD, space planning, furniture design, room renderings, electrical layouts and other behind-the-scenes skills that form the backbone of professional design work. But home called her back. “I realized that living near my family mattered more to me than living in the city and pursuing a career in design,” she said. Since returning to Marion, Blackburn’s creativity has never stayed dormant for long. It tends to find her – whether through party planning, wedding décor, interior design projects for friends, holiday decorating or refinishing furniture. She laughs that she is “a jack of all trades, but a master of none,” though anyone who’s watched her turn everyday materials into something stylish might argue otherwise.

More recently, she has quietly – and somewhat reluctantly – shared her recipes on TikTok after friends and family repeatedly asked how she makes certain dishes. Posting short videos became easier than writing out instructions. “It’s mainly my family watching,” she joked, “and a handful of kids at school who probably cringe with embarrassment.” But every now and then someone reports back that they tried one of her recipes, which she admits is fun to hear. Blackburn’s down-to-earth approach is what makes her voice a perfect fit for The Press. As a busy mom of two active kids, she understands the challenge of creating beauty and order on a budget, with limited time and a growing to-do list. Her philosophy is simple and relatable: make the most of what you have, keep things practical and don’t be afraid to add a little “lipstick on a pig” when needed. “Maybe that’s my talent, taking something cheap and turning it into something cute,” she said. Readers can expect her column to reflect that spirit each month, using easily-accessible ideas, maybe some honest humor and creative solutions for everyday living. Meanwhile, her day job is running mission control at Crittenden County High School’s front office. Look for the first installment of Blackburn’s lifestyle feature in January.

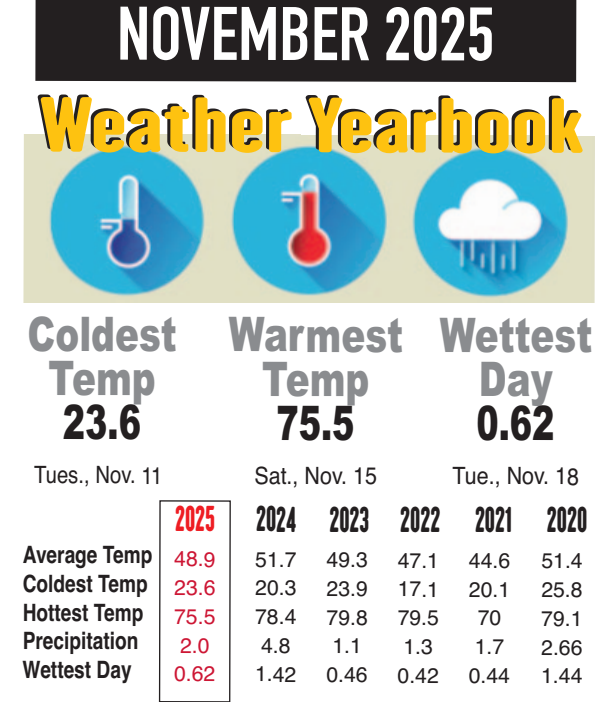
Slaughter steer prices running well above 5-year average

STAFF REPORT

Slaughter steer prices in 2025 are running well above both last year and the five-year average, according to the weekly five-market weighted data shown in the chart from the USDA Livestock Market Information Center. This year’s prices climbed steadily through spring and peaked in late summer at just over \$245 per hundredweight (cwt) before tapering off in

the fall. Even with the seasonal decline, 2025 values remain dramatically higher than 2024 levels, which hovered in the \$180-195 range for most of the year. The 2019–23 average was roughly \$130–140 cwt, underscoring just how strong this year’s cattle market has been. At current market conditions, an average finished steer is bringing

strong returns. With slaughter steer prices hovering around \$220 per hundredweight in 2025, a typical 1,400-pound animal, about 14 hundredweight (cwt), would sell for roughly \$3,000 to \$3,100 at market. That figure reflects the exceptionally high cattle prices seen this year, which are well above both last year’s levels and the five-year average



■ November 2025 will be remembered as very dry, according to long-term monthly climate summaries for the area’s Kentucky Mesonet weather station near Matoon. The county recorded just 2 inches of precipitation for the month, but oddly that’s not been abnormally dry over the previous four years when the county saw just 1.1 inches in 2023, 1.3 in 2022 and 1.7 in 2022. Last year, November left us with almost 5 inches of rainfall. Not only was it dry, but individual storms were unusually weak. The wettest single day this November produced just over a half inch at the weater station although some areas of the county may have seen slightly greater totals. November’s average temperature of 48.9 degrees was near the middle of the range compared to the past decade.

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