

Where Does Santa Live? Indiana maybe?

The population of Santa Claus, Ind., is 2,657 and the population of Rudolph, Wisc., is 428. Just interesting things to know while you spend this week around the Christmas tree.

Cell tower proposed for Shady Grove area

A telecommunications company has begun the initial federal review process for a proposed tower in eastern Crittenden County near Shady Grove. APC Towers LLC has filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission outlining plans to construct a 305-foot guyed telecommunications tower located along KY 120 near Gum Creek Road. It would sit within a 100-foot by 100-foot lease area.

By the Numbers

Censes Bureau’s data points to family changes

About one in four women who became first-time mothers from 2020 to 2024 lived with an unmarried partner at the time of birth, reflecting a long-term shift in family structure, according to a new U.S. Census Bureau report.

The report found that 24% of women who had their first child during that period were cohabiting with an unmarried partner, up from about 17% in the early 1990s. At the same time, the share of women who had a first child while neither married nor living with a partner declined, falling from roughly 20% three decades ago to about 15%. Despite those changes, the overall share of first-time mothers who were married at the time of birth has remained relatively stable at about 60% over the past 30 years.

Marriage at first birth has become increasingly common among women with higher levels of education. Among women with a bachelor’s degree or higher, the share who were married at the time of their first child rose from about 75% in the early 1990s to roughly 85% from 2020 to 2024. During the most recent period, only about 4% of first-time mothers with a bachelor’s degree or higher were neither married nor living with a partner, while about 11% were cohabiting, the report said.

Fiscal court will have some night meetings

Crittenden County Fiscal Court, which has periodically tinkered with its meetings times over the years, has decided to have one night meeting each quarter in 2026. Magistrates approved the plan at last week’s regular meeting. Evening meetings will be held the third Thursday in March, June, September and December at 6 p.m. The other eight meetings will be held at 8:30 a.m., on the third Thursday of each month. All meetings are held at the Crittenden County Office Complex and are open to the public.



Merry Christmas

Young Luke Baker, son of Jill and Reid Baker, gets a visit with St. Nick following the Fredonia Christmas parade earlier this month. This holiday season, we wish our readers, customers, friends and neighbors a childlike sense of wonder and a Christmas blessing beyond belief.

County Moves Road Money to Jail

Hayes says hostile action of court has derailed operations & morale

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Jailer Athena Hayes warned magistrates last week that a recent call for her resignation and delays in paying jail vendors are worsening an already critical financial and operational situation at the county detention center.

Speaking during the regular meeting of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court, Hayes said the court’s unanimous vote earlier this fall asking for her resignation has created uncertainty among vendors, discouraged outside agencies from working with the jail to increase the inmate population and added stress to staff charged with public safety.

“That loss of confidence and leadership has caused a domino effect,” Hayes said, adding that some vendors are now charging additional fees because of late payments.

Hayes said the jail is facing mounting challenges tied to aging infrastructure and declining inmate populations statewide. The detention center was built in 2007 at a cost of \$7.7 million and still carries about \$5.8 million in debt nearly 19 years later. She said major systems, including HVAC, plumbing, kitchen equipment, locks and control rooms, are approaching the end of their service life. The jail’s transport vehicles also have high mileage, with one exceeding 180,000 miles and another nearing 195,000 miles.

Hayes told the court that a budget she submitted for the current fiscal year was cut by the budget committee, limiting her ability to address safety concerns,

See **JAIL**/page 3A

Ambulance issue gets temporary stay

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County will continue receiving ambulance service from ComCare through at least June 30 after officials determined the county’s current EMS contract had not been properly terminated, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said last week.

Bids for a new ambulance contract were opened several weeks ago as the county prepared for the expiration of its five-year agreement with ComCare at the end of 2025. However, further review of the existing contract revealed that the required 180-day termination notice had not been issued in the manner specified by the agreement.

Newcom said the contract requires termination notice to be delivered by letter. That step had not occurred, prompting the county to formally notify ComCare. Following that notification, ComCare responded and agreed to continue operating the ambulance service through June 30.

The extension provides what Newcom described as a temporary stay, ensuring uninterrupted ambulance coverage for at least the next six months. He said the additional time will allow the county to more thoroughly evaluate its options and work through the financial implications tied to emergency medical services.

With the immediate service issue stabilized, the court plans to re-engage potential providers and rebid the ambulance contract early next year. Newcom said the

■ County will get some temporary relief from rent at county attorney’s office. See **page 4A**.

See **EMS**/page 9A

Rudolph has a spot ahead of our spring

As the calendar drifts to Christmas, I find myself thinking less about wrapping paper and more about reckoning. Charles Dickens understood this season well. A Christmas Carol was never really about snow or sentimentality; it was about responsibility, memory and the hard truth that tomorrow is shaped by what we choose to do today.

In Dickens’ tale, Scrooge is visited by spirits who force him to look honestly at his past, his present, and the future he is racing toward if nothing changes. In our own way, Crittenden County is standing at the same crossroads. We do not need ghosts rattling chains to get our attention. We already know the challenges we face. What we need now is light.

That is why, this year, I find myself calling not for a ghost, but for Rudolph.

Our community is navigating a fog as thick as any Dickens imagined. We need an end to a water crisis that has lingered far too long, testing patience and public trust. We need sustainable financial solutions at the jail, where the numbers no longer work no matter how you shuffle them. We need a clear path to keep ambulances running, law officers on the streets and our roads safe and reliable for the people who travel them every day.

These are not abstract policy debates. They are kitchen-table issues. They affect whether a family has clean water, whether help arrives in an emergency, whether a paycheck stretches far enough and whether a business chooses to stay or go.

Rudolph’s story is simple: when visibility failed, leadership mattered. Someone had to step forward, nose glowing, willing to guide the sleigh when others could not see the way. That is what we need from our local leaders now – not excuses, no heads in the sand, no deflection, no finger-pointing – just illumination. And absolutely no clowns dressed in Grinch suits.

Leadership requires courage, transparency and the humility to admit when a course correction is needed. It also requires trust, earned through action and honesty. When leaders lead, communities follow. When they do not, confusion fills the void.

Dickens reminds us that redemption is always possible, but it is never accidental. It comes from choices made in the present. The holiday season invites generosity of spirit, but it also invites accountability.

When our leaders rise to the moment, they earn the confidence of the people they serve. If they do not, well, Christmas inevitably gives way to another phase – election season – when voters will decide who they trust to guide the sleigh.

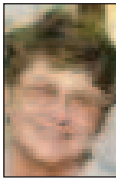
So yes, Rudolph, we need you. Not as a miracle, but as a reminder that even in the fog, the way forward can be seen – if someone is willing to light it. Who has a match?



Deaths

Mills

Elizabeth Hopson Mills, 76, of Marion, died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025 at Livingston Hospital. She was a longtime member of Marion United Methodist Church, member of St. Pius X Catholic Church in Calvert City, was valedictorian of Crittenden County High School Class of 1967 and one of the first women to obtain an MBA from Murray State University in the early 1980s where she graduated with honors.



Surviving are her children, Jamey (Tiffany) Mills of Paducah and Susana (John) Henry of Marion; and five grandchildren, Ava Henry, Addison Dudley, Ava Dudley, Jude Mills and Louisa Henry.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 42 years, Gerald Louis "Jerry" Mills; a sister, Carla Jo Rayburn; her father, Carl Leon Hopson; and mother, Sarah Hopson Enterkin.

Graveside services are at 3 p.m., Tuesday Dec. 23 at Mapleview Cemetery. A memorial visitation will be held from 1-3 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 23 at Gilbert Funeral Home.

Ritch

Peggy Faye Campbell Ritch, 78, of Marion, died Friday, December 19, 2025, in Paducah.

She was born May 26, 1947 in Princeton to the late William and Rowena Thurman Campbell.

She worked various jobs throughout her life, starting with the Marion Drive-In as a teenager. From secretary at Second Baptist Church, to the assembly line at Siemens and Executive Manager in Tupperware, she took pride in her work – but being a Mom & Mammaw

were her favorite jobs of all.

As a young girl, she enjoyed working on her family farm. She was proud to be a small-town girl and loved her community dearly. Her favorite thing in the world was spending time with her family, friends, church family, and the Class of 1966. She was a faithful servant of the Lord and was happiest when she was helping others. Anyone who knew Peggy knew her passion for music, especially Southern gospel quartets; she even served on various boards supporting the efforts of these musicians spreading the gospel through music.



Surviving include her

daughters, Angie (Lance) Sloan of Lebanon, Tenn., and Kim Ritch of San Francisco, Calif.; a brother, Ed (Diane) Campbell of Argyle, Texas; two grandchildren, Azia Hurley of Tempe, Ariz., and Brayton (Cheyenne) Hurley of Ft. Mitchell, Ala.; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Peggy was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry Ritch, and a daughter, Christa Ritch.

Celebration of Life visitation will be held from 9 a.m., to 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 27 at Gilbert Funeral Home. Services will follow at 1 p.m., with Bro. Kirk Greenfield officiating. Gilbert Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Paid obituary

Merry Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

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ATTENTION

There will not be a printed issue of The Crittenden Press published on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026

Our next edition will be published on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026

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Fredonia Valley Bank
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The Board Members & Staff of Fredonia Valley Bank wishes everyone a
Merry Christmas
—and—
Happy New Year

The office will be closing at noon
Christmas Eve and
Closed Christmas Day

Open half day New Year's Eve
and closed New Year's Day

and suddenly there was with
an angel
a multitude of the heavenly host
praising God
and saying
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HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

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Christmas
Closed Dec. 24-26

New Year
Closing at noon Dec. 31
Closed Jan. 1-2

Merry Christmas
from the Crittenden County Attorney's Office

County Attorney Bart Frazer
Assistant County Attorney Cobie Evans
Brooke Winterrowd, Viki Carlson, Ilyana Perryman & Sarah Gordon

We wish you all the best for the year to come.

MERRY Christmas

May the love and light of this special time fill you with enough peace, joy and contentment to last the whole year through.

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Marion bank plans to further expand near Bowling Green

STAFF REPORT

Farmers Bank & Trust, which has seen its assets more than double in size over the past six years, is planning further expansion.

Farmers bank late last week announced its purchased land for two future branch offices in Franklin and Bowling Green, continuing its long-standing expansion across western Kentucky while keeping its headquarters anchored in Marion.

Both properties are located along Nashville Road, about 15 miles apart, underscoring the bank's continued investment in the Interstate 65 corridor and the communities that line it.

Construction on the Franklin branch is expected to begin in 2026, with the office projected to open in early 2027. A second Bowling Green location is planned to follow, with construction targeted for mid-2027.

"Growing the right way has always mattered to us," President and CEO Wade Berry said. "The relationship-focused, getting-to-know-you approach that has long defined Farmers Bank in Marion and Salem is the



same approach we bring to every community we enter."

Farmers Bank & Trust has operated in Bowling Green since September 2019 and has experienced strong growth in the Warren County market. Franklin, the seat of Simpson County just south of Bowling Green, has also seen steady growth in recent years, driven in part by its location between Bowling Green and Nashville.

In 2019, Farmers Bank completed an acquisition of First State Bank, a deal that added five locations in Central City and Greenville in Muhlenberg County, Calhoun and Livermore in McLean County, and Bowling Green in Warren County. Following that transac-

tion, Farmers Bank & Trust reported total assets of about \$380 million. Today, the bank has \$765 million in assets.

"Marion is our home, and it's where our headquarters is – and always will be," Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Andy Hunt said. "Growth outside Marion is good for the bank, and it's good for Marion. With our headquarters based here, as we expand into other markets we continue to add support roles and resources right here at the main office."

Hunt said the bank's Marion workforce has increased by about 10 percent during the past 12 months as expansion has continued in other markets.

Founded in Marion in 1899 on the same street corner where its headquarters still stands, Farmers Bank & Trust first expanded beyond Crittenden County in 2003 with a branch in Salem. Additional growth followed with a new Henderson branch in 2015 and the acquisition of Hopkinsville-based United Southern Bank's Madisonville assets in 2016.



Pictured at the Magnolia House Beauty Co., are (front from left) Chamber President Rebecca Woodall, Megan Kirk, Stephen O'Brien, Rashelle Wydotis, Mayor D'Anna Browning, (back) Chamber members Rose Dempsey, Steve Watson, Perry Newcom, Grant Rogers and Charlie Day.

Wellness center opens in Marion

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce hosted a new business ribbon-cutting ceremony last week at Magnolia House Beauty Co., on Sturgis Road in Marion.

Owner Megan Kirk says the business will offer a range of wellness and aesthetic services by appointment in a shared medical-wellness space.

Services provided on site include IV therapy, hydrogen inhalation therapy, Botox and facials. Rashelle Wydotis, ARPN, operates Back to Eden Wellness within the building and focuses on functional medicine services.

IV therapy offerings in-

clude vitamin infusions such as high-dose vitamin C for individuals seeking holistic support during a cancer journey, as well as patients undergoing chemotherapy who want additional support to help manage treatment side effects. Other IV options may include vitamin B complexes, zinc, amino acids and essential minerals – nutrients typically obtained through food or supplements but delivered intravenously.

Hydrogen inhalation therapy and hydrogen-rich water are provided in partnership with Purus, LLC, the supplier of the hydrogen inhalation equipment. PURUS

also offers air-quality products, including air purifier and vacuum systems designed to improve indoor air health.

In addition, Dr. Chris Wunn's Spine Chiropractic Care operates out of the building, seeing established chiropractic patients during scheduled visits.

The entire facility will operate under the Magnolia House name, with individual services housed within the space. Regular business hours are 9 a.m., to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, with weekend appointments available as needed. All services are offered by appointment only.

Crittenden County Detention Center



DETENTION CENTER REPORT

December 18, 2025

The Crittenden County Detention Center report is provided monthly to magistrates during Crittenden County Fiscal Court meetings. The inmate count is an average for last month.

- Federal Inmates \$57 Per diem
- State Inmates \$35.34 Per diem
- Lyon County Inmates \$36.00
- Other County Inmates \$40.00

LAST MONTH CASH FLOW

Total Receipts \$266,338.32
Disbursements \$221,864.63

JAIL CENSUS	Nov 2025 Avg	Oct 2025 Avg	Monthly Average 2024
State Inmates	71.1	84.5	75.38
Federal Inmates	52.8	53.3	67.69
Other County Inmates	15.2	21.5	21.82
Critenden County Inmates	19.8	18.1	19.86
TOTAL INMATES	158.9	177.4	184.75
Highest Daily Count	169	195	195.67
Lowest Daily Count	155	166	178.75

Last Month REVENUE	November 2025	October 2025	Monthly Average 2024
State Housing Payments	\$75,380.22	\$92,590.80	\$81,220.16
Federal Housing Payments	\$90,345.00	\$94,164.00	\$116,235.25
Federal Transport Payments	\$4,116.50	\$9,654.40	\$13,566.71
Lyon Co. Housing Payments	\$15,336.00	\$22,680.00	\$21,399.00
Other County Housing Payments	\$120	\$440.00	\$1,802.17
Weekend/Work Release	\$1,080.00	\$1,040.00	\$477.33
TOTAL HOUSING	\$186,377.72	\$220,596.20	\$234,709.79

Last Month ANALYSIS			
Cost of Crittenden Inmates	\$23,760.00	\$22,440.00	\$19,290.67
Numbers of Co. Housing Days	594	561	602.83
County Daily Housing Rate	\$40	\$40	\$32
Avg Daily Population Co. Inmates	19.8	18.1	19.86

JAIL

Continued from page 1

staffing stress and maintenance needs. "I am not running this jail frivolously," Hayes said. "I have cut corners on everything possible."

Hayes said she wanted a full apology from the court and for it to be put on the record, outlining its confidence in her ability to operate the jail so she can begin helping solve its problems. She said magistrates maliciously attacked her in October by calling for her resignation, a request that carries no statutory authority or legal effect.

Later in the same fiscal court meeting, magistrates voted 4-1 to move money from an emergency county road fund to the general fund and then to the jail fund to cover a shortfall that has occurred from making last week's jail detention center payroll. Magistrate Matt Grimes voted against the plan. Magistrate Robert Kirby was absent. All others voted in favor.

"I appreciate your position Matt, but at this point it's all we can do," Newcom said. "At this point we have to do what we have to do. There are federal and state (repercussions) if we don't pay payroll. If we don't make our bond payment, our bond rating will be affected and will bring in the state which will come in and tell us how we are going to fix this."

The bond payment of \$42,707 is due in early January. The jail will owe employees a bi-weekly payroll of about \$83,000 on the last day of the year and it still has not paid some of November's recurring bills, which the fiscal court decided to not pay for now.

Newcom said nobody wants to move money from the road fund, which has about \$164,000 set aside for emergencies. Grimes asked if there is anywhere the money could come from and Newcom said no.

For those who have followed the ongoing jail issues, it was Grimes who originally asked for Hayes' resignation. That motion was unanimously approved in October.

In addition to transferring \$50,000 out of the road fund to help the jail, the county also allocated the last of its previously budgeted funds for transfer to the jail, \$24,176. Starting on July 1, the county had allocated \$237,176 in funds available to transfer to the jail in case it failed to cash flow. That entire

amount has now been transferred less than six months into the fiscal year.

As of late last week, the jail had a \$14,114 cash balance after making transfers from those two outside sources – reserves for transfer and road fund. Newcom also said the jail had to use funds earmarked for December's payroll withholding liabilities to help cover the Dec. 18 payroll of \$83,494. Those withholdings will need to be recovered somewhere because they will be due early next month. The year's last pay period rolls around Dec. 31.

Anticipated receipts of around \$150,00 for federal and other county inmates per diems will come by the end

of the year and further state housing income in early January. Still, the numbers don't add to back ink. In fact, the red ink continues to grow bolder.

The jailer has also pointed out that more than \$600,000 annually in free labor and services are provided to the community – including mowing public grounds, special-detail labor and litter abatement.

Hayes noted that Kentucky jails statewide are facing similar pressures as state and federal agencies reduce inmate housing and speed up releases. She said nearly 300 inmates were recently removed from county facilities across the state.

"There is no silver bullet to fix these issues," Hayes said. "But tearing this jail down with reckless, thoughtless decisions only makes it worse."

Fiscal court members were scheduled to meet again at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, for routine end-of-year measures and to re-examine whether sufficient receipts had been received for the county to pay more of the past-due jail bills. The printed edition of The Press had an early holiday deadline this week, so any pressing developments will be published at The Press Online.

FINANCIAL FOCUS®

Budgeting doesn't have to feel restrictive

December 25, 2025



Let's be honest: The word "budget" doesn't exactly spark joy for most people. It can feel restrictive or even generate feelings of guilt about past spending choices. But what if budgeting could feel empowering? When done right, it's simply about understanding your money and making sure it aligns with what truly matters to you.

Who needs a budget? While nearly everyone can benefit from budgeting, it's especially helpful if you're just starting out on your own, if your expenses exceed your income or if you're working toward a big goal like buying a home or retiring. Major life changes – marriage, a new baby, a job change or even retirement itself – are also perfect times to take a fresh look at your finances.

If your spending causes you stress or you simply want clarity about where your money goes each

month, budgeting can help. Here are a few tips to help get you started:

Dispense with the dread. Often, the hardest part of budgeting is just getting started. Try breaking it down into small, manageable steps, and dedicate 30 minutes a week to tracking your income and expenses. Pair budgeting with something enjoyable – a favorite coffee or a relaxing activity – to make it less of a chore.

If you have no idea how much you spend, start by simply observing your buying habits for a few months. Review your checking and credit card accounts to see money coming in and going out. You can't change the past

but you can adjust for your future.

Find your level of detail. There's no one-size-fits-all approach to budgeting. You might start by tracking just total income and expenses or by using the popular 50/30/20 rule: 50% for necessities, 30% for wants and 20% for savings and debt reduction. Some people prefer to build detailed categories for everything from groceries to entertainment, while others keep broader categories that work better for their lifestyles.

Technology can be your friend here. Budget apps and Ai-enabled spreadsheets can pull information directly from your bank and credit card

statements, making the process much easier.

Make it work for you. Once you've tracked your spending, look for areas to adjust. Can you swap brand-name items for generics? Are there subscriptions you're not using? Sometimes the biggest impact comes from examining your largest expenses – housing, utilities, transportation, insurance – to find opportunities to save.

If you can't make room in your budget, you may need to revisit and reprioritize your financial goals. A financial advisor can help you understand your options and any trade-offs.

Stay on track. Check in with your budget monthly, quarterly or annually –



Grant Rogers
Financial Advisor

whatever works for you. When life changes, your budget should too. Salary increases, bonuses, new expenses or significant life events are all good reasons to review and adjust.

Above all, the goal of a budget isn't perfection. It's progress toward financial confidence and peace of mind. A good budget shouldn't limit you – it should free you to spend guilt-free on what matters while saving intentionally for your future.

Grant Rogers
123 E. Bellville St.
Marion, KY 42064
(270) 965-0944

Court gets break on county attorney rent

Crittenden County Fiscal Court last week approved a temporary rent reduction for county office space leased from Cobie Evans Investments. Evans rents space in his building at the corner of Main and Carlisle streets, providing offices for the county attorney. County Attorney Bart Frazer previously owned the building. In light of financial hardships the county has experienced recently, Evans said he was willing to lower the monthly rent from \$550 to \$300. The rent had only been increased a few months ago. The gesture allows the county to return to the original rental rate for the space. The new rate expires in December 2026.

Whole milk in schools

After more than a decade of debate, whole and 2% milk are set to return to public school cafeterias under newly approved federal legislation. Congress has passed the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, reversing nutrition standards put in place by the 2012 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act that limited school milk options to fat-free and 1%. The bill now awaits the president’s signature, with implementation expected as early as the next school year. For the past several years, public schools participating in the National School Lunch Program have typically served fat-free (skim) milk and 1% low-fat milk. Flavored milk, such as chocolate, has usually been allowed only in fat-free form. The 2012 rules were designed to reduce childhood obesity by cutting saturated fat in school meals, but critics argued they had unintended consequences. Many students are accustomed to drinking whole or 2% milk at home and were less likely to consume the lower-fat options offered at school, leading to reduced intake of key nutrients such as calcium, protein and vitamin D. Recent research has also influenced the policy shift. Multiple studies have found that milk fat has a neutral or, in some cases, positive effect on childhood health outcomes, undermining earlier assumptions that higher-fat milk contributes to obesity. That evolving science, along with changing consumer preferences, helped generate bipartisan support for the change. The legislation is also expected to benefit U.S. dairy farmers. School meal programs account for about 8% of all fluid milk sales nationwide, making the restoration of whole and 2% milk a significant development for the industry.

Animal shelter reports 35 dogs at shelter

Crittenden County Animal Shelter reported a total of 35 dogs housed at the shelter as of Nov. 31, with an additional 48 dogs placed in foster care, according to its November intake and discharge summary. During the reporting month, the shelter received 20 dogs. Fifteen dogs were transferred to rescue organizations, four were adopted and one was reclaimed by its owner. No dogs escaped, were euthanized or died due to medical reasons during the month. The shelter reported \$130 in receipts for November, including \$105 in adoption fees and \$25 in reclaim fees. No revenue was reported from dog licenses, sponsorships or donations during the period.

Discovery Park offers free entry to 17-under

Discovery Park of America will offer free admission for children 17 and under throughout January as it opens 2026 with a full slate of exhibits and events, park officials announced. The January promotion is sponsored by Magnolia Place Assisted Living. Discovery Park



CEO Scott Williams said the offer gives families an affordable way to explore the museum during the winter months while kicking off what he called a landmark year tied to the nation’s upcoming 250th anniversary. The 2026 calendar includes temporary exhibits, festivals, concerts and educational programming. Events begin Feb. 21 with the free POSH Bridal Show, followed in March by the Robert E. and Jenny D. Kirkland Discovery Awards, which benefit the Kirkland Scholarship Fund. April features the annual plant sale, a singer-songwriter night with Phillip Coleman and Friends, and the Military Expo on April 17-18. That month also includes the one-woman historical performance “A Revolution of Her Own!” about Revolutionary War soldier Deborah Sampson. Popular returning events include the Cardboard Boat Regatta on May 9, the Antique Tractor Show on June 5-6, and the Rhythm on the Rails summer concert series, running May 22 through July 3. Discovery Park will also host a June-tenth celebration June 19. Several major exhibitions are planned, including “Home, Heart, Heritage: Quilt Exhibition Celebrating Black History,” Feb. 1-June 21, and “Brushstrokes of a Young Nation: The Art of David Wright,” June 30, 2026-Feb. 1, 2027. Both exhibitions tie into Tennessee’s 230th anniversary of statehood and the national America 250 observance. A centerpiece of the year will be the “Celebrating 250 Years of Independence” festival July 3-4, featuring living history, family activities and extended hours. Country music artist Mo Pitney will headline a free outdoor concert July 3. More information and a complete calendar are available at discoveryparkofamerica.com.

State highway KY 387 also known as Dam 50 road has been closed since back in the early spring. This photo was taken late last week at the bridge across Crooked Creek. It was supposed to have opened this month but recent delays have pushed that timeline into January. Having the road closed this past summer took a serious toll on Riverview Park’s camping.

Riverview Park has a dozen Nov. campers

Riverview Park recorded 12 total reserved nights in November, including 10 RV nights and two tent nights, according to the park’s monthly report. Financial activity posted during the month showed \$330 in RV site revenue. A Crittenden County Fiscal Court disbursement summary tied to parks and recreation reflected the November spending that made up the \$1,357.73 total. Charges included a \$65 sewage contract payment to James Septic Service, a \$600 administrative payroll reimbursement, \$139.41 for reservation website and processing fees (Campspot and CardConnect), \$329.08 for Riverview Park dumpster service through Impact Waste Service LLC, and \$224.24 in utilities split between Crittenden Livingston Water District and Kenergy Corp. The bridge on the state highway between Dam 50 and KY 91 remains closed. The replacement project has taken

longer than anticipated. It was out all summer, limiting the number of campers who used Riverview Park.

KY lawmkers are studying AI, have legislative plans

Kentucky lawmakers studying artificial intelligence wrapped up their work recently, issuing a slate of policy recommendations for the 2026 General Assembly as the state prepares for what is expected to be a crowded legislative session. The Artificial Intelligence Task Force – formed in 2023 and meeting monthly since last year – endorsed 10 broadly worded recommendations aimed at helping lawmakers navigate rapid developments in AI, data use and the demands of large data-center infrastructure. Recommendations call for updating the Kentucky Consumer Data Protection Act to strengthen privacy safeguards as AI-driven data collection evolves, and for reviewing acceptable-use policies across all state agencies. According to various reports on the task force’s work, lawmakers also urged policies that would encourage collaboration among service providers, state agencies and Kentucky’s research universities to share and study Medicaid data sets with the aim of preventing disease and reducing long-term Medicaid costs. Another proposal acknowledges that AI may be harmful to minors and encourages lawmakers to consider protections for children on social media platforms. Recognizing that AI may alter careers regulated by professional licensing boards, the task force recommended coordination with those boards to determine when and how the technology should be used in specific professions. Members also endorsed creating a statewide AI work group to bring together governments, educational institutions, health-care providers, industry and citizens to identify needs, collect data, promote AI literacy and ensure trusted development and governance across Kentucky. Based on various news sources, the task force further suggested folding AI development and oversight into existing legislative committee jurisdictions rather than creating a new stand-alone body. It also proposed setting minimum requirements for where data centers can be located and how they must collaborate with local, state and private entities. Another recommendation urges lawmakers to consider the massive water and power demands of data centers and the “state needing more baseload power to ensure grid sufficiency,” with consultation from the Public Service Commission. Several lawmakers raised concerns about growing strain on Kentucky’s energy grid. Legislation is expected in January to address those issues. The group’s final recommendation encourages Kentucky’s congressional delegation to pursue national AI policies on consumer protection, data privacy, name-image-likeness rights and small-business impacts associated with a patchwork of state laws.

County on holiday

Crittenden County offices will close for the Christmas and New Year’s holidays, county officials announced. In observance of Christmas, the Crittenden County Office Complex, Crittenden County Road Department, Marion Convenience Center and the Crittenden County Animal Shelter will be closed Thursday, Dec. 25, through Sunday, Dec. 28. Normal hours will resume Monday, Dec. 29. For the New Year’s holiday, the same offices will be closed Thursday, Jan. 1, through Sunday, Jan. 4. Normal operations will resume Monday, Jan. 5.

*Between Printed Editions
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our YouTube Channel.*



From the Press Archives – 50 Years Ago
Mayor B.A. Phillips and County Judge J.E. Keeling present Sgt. Everett Morris with a proclamation declaring February as National Guard Month and recognizing Operation Spirit of '76 in Marion and Crittenden County. The ceremony took place in front of a replica of the Liberty Bell on display at the courthouse, marking the kickoff of a statewide National Guard recruiting effort.

50 YEARS AGO

December 25, 1975
■ Winners of the 1975-76 conservation essay contest were announced and received cash prizes. Cindy Hendrix won first place and was awarded \$15. Paula Binkley and Melissa Jones won second and third place, respectively, earning \$10 and \$5.
■ Crittenden County was defeated by Caldwell County at the Three Rivers Conference basketball tournament. David Perryman led the Rockets with 11 points, and Donnie Mills followed with 10.
■ The Crittenden County Lions Club and the Marion unit of the Kentucky National Guard collaborated to organize a Christmas program for local children. Jewell Penn presented an honored guest with Christmas goodies. Santa called out names for bags of toys for children. A total of 125 children attended the party.

25 YEARS AGO

January 4, 2000
■ Ted and Dolores Travis of Marion were awarded Overdrive Magazine’s Truckers of the Year honor. The couple had been trucking together for 18 years, primarily hauling beef for the National Beef Co. Ted and Dolores were nominated by Ted’s brother, Bud Travis, who was named Trucker of the Month in 1998. The award recognizes their safety records and positive relationships within the trucking industry.
■ The Lady Rockets had a tough time at the Rockcastle County tournament, losing all three games. Despite strong performances from Shelly Johnson, Kayla Bebout and Ashley Crockett, the Lady Rockets were unable to pull out a win.
■ Crittenden County High School Spanish students presented a cultural program to Crittenden County Middle School students in Mrs. Roberts’ social studies classes. Sixth-grade students were introduced to the Spanish pastime of bullfighting. CCHS students also taught Spanish Club members at Crittenden County Elementary School about the Spanish holiday Dia de los Muertos. The Spanish Club was sponsored by Mrs. Brantley and Mrs. Kirby.

10 YEARS AGO

December 24, 2015
■ The Crittenden County Blue Knights chess team competed in three tournaments, with the K3, K5 and K8 teams winning all three matches. Members of the winning teams were Alex Smith, Donte Bell, Nai’Zayah Bell, Wyatt Russell, Hayden Hildebrand, Zak Smith, Kole Williams, Zeke Smith, Skyler James, Gage Russell, Cole Swinford, Koby Williams, Mya Moore, Evan McDowell, Marley Phelps and Abbey Swinford. The coach of all three teams was Don Winters.
■ Crittenden County Elementary School Rocket Role Models for December were Emily Hardin, Katie Allsbury, Conner Poindexter, Wyatt Tramel, Gabrielle Holliman, Layken Gilchrist, Hannah Jent, Cash Singleton, Tristian Cooper, Brianna Davis, Elle McDaniel, Jacob Carder, Aerie Suggs, Kaily Bivin, Braydin Brandsasse, Kayleigh Weathers, Kendyl Drury, Peyton Rushing, Anastazja Ingalls, Chase Conyer, Hayden Cavanah, Cutter Singleton, Kailyn Stokes, Jacie Ricketts, Karsen Shouse, Jordan Hardesty, Lanie Greenwell, Evony Calderon and Madalyn Schiller.
■ The Crittenden County girls defeated Livingston County 56-28. Kiana Nesbitt recorded her first career double-double with 13 points and 11 rebounds. Cassidy Moss followed with 11 points, and Amanda Lynch added eight.

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

The Crittenden Press

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Trouble from the beginning

Christmas as a holiday has been through the historical wringer. It has been celebrated by the Church, perhaps as early as the second century. We have Christmas sermons as early as the fourth century. Throughout this time, many have claimed that it is based on pagan holidays honoring Mithras or Sol Invictus. Not to mention the left-over yule tribute to Odin, and mistletoe as representing the tears of Frigg. I suspect that the debate will continue.

What may not be as widely known is that the earliest Christians were more concerned about when Jesus was conceived, rather than when he was born. There is debate about this as well, but there are early writings (second century) that indicate Christians believed Jesus was conceived around the time of Passover, which would lead to a birth in mid-late December. If this is the case, then the connection to winter solstice is coincidental, rather than intentional. Still, we cannot deny all the intrusions from other religious and secular sources have altered the celebration of Jesus’ birth beyond recognition for those who lived in the past.

Christmas did not get off to a good start in the United States. The Mayflower landed just a week before Christmas in 1620, just before the harshness of winter set in. The next boat, The Fortune, arrived in November the following year, without supplies, and left three weeks later with pelts and other goods for England. Here is an account by William Bradford from that second Christmas.

“On the day called Christmasday [sic.], the governor called them out

to work. But the most of this new company excused themselves and said it went against their conscience to work on the day. . . . But when they came home at noon from their work he found them in the street (playing games). He told them it was against his conscience that they should play while others worked, so he took away their (games).” (William Bradford, Journal Entry, 1621).

Later Christmas became a day of dancing, card playing, and drinking. In 1651 Massachusetts passed a law, “It is therefore ordered by this court and the authority thereof, that whosoever shall be found observing any such day as christmas; [sic.] or the like, either by forbearing labour [sic.], Penalty for feasting, or any other way upon any such account as afore keeping said, every such person so offending, shall pay for every such offence five shillings as a fine to the county. (1651) (From Charters and General Laws of ... Massachusetts Bay.)

Seen as a day for drinking and debauchery in the early years of the colonies. Most likely this had more to do with Puritan, and especially separatist) sensibilities. Much of what we enjoy about Christmas today travelled from England in the Victorian times through the German Prince Albert. Nineteenth century German immigrants added to this – especially the Christmas tree. In June 1870, Christmas was added as an unpaid holiday. Tagged on to a bill about electors in presidential elections.

In our lifetimes, Christmas in the United States has been marked by post WWII prosperity and consumerism. Three mov-

ies within a decade of the end of WWII come to mind as having a massive cultural effect on us – even if you haven’t seen them. Which I cannot imagine!

It’s a Wonderful Life (1946) is a look at the value of everyone’s life and an affirmation of those who did not serve in the war. It is a nostalgic look at America before the war and ends with the optimism of home-ownership and the promise of new technologies (plastics!) Recognized as a holiday in 1870 by Ulysses S. Grant.

Miracle on 34th Street (1947) is an introduction to the “magic of Christmas” and the power of imagination and belief in Santa Claus. Its focus has had the effect of making “faith and family” a theme that competes with the birth of Christ at this time of year, and a turn toward secularism.

White Christmas (1954) is no doubt still loved by card makers everywhere. It is a musical comedy that captures post-war America. The 1950s were a time of economic expansion, the results of the G.I. bill educating veterans, and optimism in American power and influence. Again, there was a turn toward nostalgia, but one that was likely needed by veterans.

Through all the syncretism, consumerism, and criticism there shines hope for us all. Enjoy the gifts, the meals, the family times, and the special worship services. Keep this in mind, And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” (Colossians 3:17, RSV). And remember to, “Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” (Romans 15:7)

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

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Reporting OUR THANKS THIS CHRISTMAS WE WISH YOU ALL the best!

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

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Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
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Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.
Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.
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Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and
Captured by a vision... Youth Activities: 6 p.m.

Tolu Methodist Church

Pastor: David Brown
We invite you to be our guest
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Barnett Chapel General Baptist

Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service: 6 p.m.
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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 Holuman
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.
"Come and Worship with Us"
Pastor, Hank Cayce

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

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2 Peter 3:18
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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
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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

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Children's Church ages 3 & up ... 11 a.m.
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Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.
Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

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Bro. David Perryman, Pastor
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Marion Church of Christ

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Festive Christmases of Marion’s past

The Marion of yesterday was a very festive place. Parties and fun gatherings were much anticipated events. By the articles that appeared in the archives of The Crittenden Presses, you can tell much planning and preparation was done to get ready for these elaborately decorated parties.

The homes must have been a beautiful sight with all the live, colorful greenery decorations and the ladies and gentlemen in their finest attire. Let's visit some of these holiday parties and see what was going on all those years ago.

Dec. 28, 1903 The "As You Like It" Club Banquet

The ladies composing the "As You Like It" Club gave a reception in honor of their husbands and a few invited guests at the New Marion Hotel on Monday night, which was indeed elegant and delightful in all its appointments and was unanimously rated an occasion long to be remembered on account of the pleasant memories associated with it.

The contests were spirited and in every case were unique and sparkling with originality. The first was the "Art Gallery" contest, and it was a source of much pleasure to the streams of visitors who thronged it from the time it was thrown open, all eager to win the prizes.

Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Jenkins finally were decided winners, although they had to contest for the honors with a half-dozen other lucky ones who also had the answers correct.

The booby prizes were awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Groves, of Hawesville, Ky. Next came the choice of partners for supper, which was by a fishing contest, and the "catch" in each case was a pleasant surprise, and reminded each Benedict of the days of "Auld Lang Syne" as he tripped out to the Banquet table with some other fellows' girl.

The delicacies of the Christmas season and the fruits of all climates were daintily served, while the soft strains of the Italian harp, that sweetest of all instruments, floated out on the air. Mrs. Jenkins had prepared a special holiday list of music for the occasion and it was

much appreciated and enjoyed by all present.

Next came the historical contest, which was especially interesting and novel. Mrs. Moore did the honors as hostess, assisted by Miss Leaffa Wilborn. Those present, other than the hostess and her fair assistant, were: Prof. and Mrs. Groves, Hawesville; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Sayre, Congressman and Mrs. James, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Haynes, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Jenkins, Misses Lena, Ina and Sallie Woods, Mrs. Perry Maxwell, Mrs. Edgar James, Misses Lizzie and Ruby James, Miss Nell Walker, Messrs, Sam Gugenheim, D. C. Roberts, W. J. Jones, W. D. Baird and Haywood Williams.

Dec. 1907 Watch Night Party at Albert J. Pickens

The year 1907 will soon be gone, its blessings, privileges and opportunities will be remembered with things of the past. Some will be like nuggets of gold to us, and now as 1907 comes to a close we find 30 people gathered at the home of A. J. Pickens to spend the afternoon with him and family in their new home built on Pierce St.

He had prepared to entertain all his nearest neighbors. We were having a fine time in social conversation when the call was made for dinner. Now this first call of course meant the prettiest of course, and this includes Messrs. Frank I. Travis, A. A. Deboe, Dr. Perry, Hunter Lamb, Nute Thomas, P. C. Lamb, Homer Paris, Wm. J. Hill and Mesdames R. L. Wilson, Frank I. Travis, Dr. Perry and P. J. Hill. This was the first table and it seemed from the way they ate, they were enjoying it very much.

Now if I can, I will tell you what was on the table: beef roast, turkey, spare ribs, chicken, corn bread and biscuit. Oh! a variety of pies and cakes and in fact everything you could think of, that was good.

The dining room was beautifully decorated in festive holiday colors of red and green with touches of gold and silver ornaments throughout.

Dec. 19, 1912 Brilliant Social Function

The holiday festivities were given a delightful introduction last Sat-

urday afternoon when the first of the season's affairs was given by Mrs. Wm. Barnett and her two lovely daughters, Mrs. Jack Thomas and Miss Esther Barnett, who entertained at cards at the beautiful new Barnett home on South Main Street.

Mrs. Barnett wore a handsome gown of brown silk charmeuse; daughters, Mrs. Thomas wore a blue crepe meteor and Miss Esther Barnett wore blue silk charmeuse, and they received their guests with a charming hospitality, for which the family is justly so well known.

The interior of the new home was decorated in holly with ropes of smilax and a profusion of red carnations. The color scheme was green and red and it was carried out in the refreshments, which were furnished by an Evansville caterer.

Among those who graced the occasion with their presence were Mesdames Clem S. Nunn, J. S. Henry, Sam Gugenheim, J. I. Clement, C. P. Browning of Rosiclare, Ill., and Misses Della Barnes, Martha Henry, Kitty and Ellis Gray, Ruby James and Eva Clement.

Dec 25, 1912 The Grand Ball at the Opera House – They dined and danced all night.

Cards announcing the "First Annual Christmas Ball" were welcome visitors at the home of all those who enjoy tripping the light fantastic and invited the recipient and friend to the opera house on Christmas night. One hundred invitations were issued and a splendid band from Smithland engaged, and the occasion was swell in the extreme.

The opera house was decorated beautifully and tastefully. At midnight the gay dancers repaired to the New Marion Hotel, where a feast fit for the Gods and been prepared by the host Baird and his assistants.

After the courses were served the dance was resumed and continued until the wee small hours when carriages were called and whirled the guests to their various homes just as the streaks of dawn were appearing in the east.

Dec. 31, 1919 Watch Night Party

Miss Virginia Flanary very charmingly entertained Wednesday evening Dec. 31 at a watch night dinner. Decorations in the holiday colors of red and green combined with tinsel and



The top photo was the home of Mrs. William Barnett and her two daughters, who entertained their friends at a card party, in their beautiful new home built on South Main Street in 1912. Directly above, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Al Pickens was the site of entertaining family and friends at a watch night party in their spacious home on Pierce Street built in 1904.

holly were used with pretty effect through out the house. The lights were shaded with red, and in the dining room clusters of tiny cupids hung from the shade.

Streamers of red and green extended to each plate from a mound of snow and evergreen in the center of the table. Attached to these streamers were witty toasts for each guest present.

The nut baskets were in the shape of poinsettias blossoms, while the place cards were pretty snow scenes and small cupids were given as favors. Seated with the hostess were Misses Elizabeth Rochester, Miriam Pierce, Myrtle Glas, Lilly Dunn, Ruth Moore, Jewel Rankin; Messrs, Doyle Vaughn, George Gumbert, Kenna Powell, Isam Morse, Charles Cassidy; Mrs. Clint Meadors of Dawson Springs and Mesdames and Messrs. Wm. H. Rochester and Newton Moore.

I'm sure many good memories were made to those attending the fun and festive parties of yesterday.

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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 4BR lodge, proven hunting history, food plots, blinds, ponds, Coefield Creek, and diverse habitat. Prime layout for whitetail and turkey hunting with multiple access points.

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!
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Livingston County, KY – 161 Acres - \$547,400.00

Livingston County, KY – 353 Acres - \$1,129,600.00

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Livingston County, KY – 989 Acres - \$3,016,450.00

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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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Firemen earn recognition

The Crittenden County Volunteer Fire Department recognized two members for outstanding service during its annual Christmas party and dinner last weekend.

James “Cornbread” Mayes was named Firefighter of the Year for his dedication to the volunteer service and his consistent willingness to assist whenever needed.



James “Cornbread” Mayes (left) and Matt Lynn receive awards from chief Chris Cooksey.

Matt Lynn received the Most Improved Firefighter award, recognizing his commitment to training, con-

tinued learning and skill development to improve efficiency on the job.

Department leaders ex-

press appreciation to volunteers who continue to serve the community during times of need.

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legal notices

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, KY do certify that the followin has filed notice of Final Settlement: Cobie Evans of 100 West Adair Street, Smithland, KY administrator of Danny Ray Adams, deceased. The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on January 14, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. All persons having exceptions to said settlement are to file same at once. Melissa Guill, Clerk Crittenden District Court (1t-51-c)

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, KY do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement: Patricia Vied of 669 S.R. 1077, Marion, KY 42064 executrix of Portia Kleinik, deceased, whose address was 12 Love Cemetery Road., Marion, KY 42064. The foregoing Settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on January 15, 2026. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once. (1t-51-c)

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BASKETBALL

Upcoming Ball Games

TUESDAY, Dec. 23
Rockets at Murray High
Lady Rockets at Union County
(Results unavailable at press time)
JANUARY 2
Rockets host Mayfield
JANUARY 3
Rockets at Webster County
Lady Rockets host Mayfield

ALL A TOURNAMENT
Girls Opening Round
Monday, Jan. 5
University Heights at Heritage Christian
Caldwell County at Livingston Central
Lyon County at Fort Campbell
Crittenden County at Dawson Springs
Thursday, Jan. 8
Semifinal round at Dawson, 6 pm
Semifinal round at Dawson, 7:30pm
Saturday, Jan. 10
Championship at Dawson, 4pm

ALL A CLASSIC
Boys Opening Round
Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 6pm
Livingston Central at Dawson Springs
University Heights at Fort Campbell
Lyon County at Caldwell County
Heritage Christian at Crittenden Co.
Friday, Jan. 9
Semifinal round at Dawson, 6 pm
Semifinal round at Dawson, 7:30pm
Saturday, Jan. 10
Championship at Dawson, 7:30pm

SPORTS FACILITY

Launchpad Opens Jan. 5

West Kentucky Launchpad is preparing to open its doors in Marion as a new athletic training facility serving athletes of all ages and skill levels. The facility will provide training resources for baseball, softball and jiu-jitsu, along with open facility time, athlete development services and community-focused programming. Ahead of the official opening, West Kentucky Launchpad is offering a free hitting assessment for baseball and softball players on January 3-4. Space is very limited and advance RSVP is required. The facility will officially open for training on January 5, with baseball, softball and jiu-jitsu programs available. Additional amenities, including a community gym and expanded training opportunities, are planned and will be added in the near future. West Kentucky Launchpad is located on Sturgis Road in Marion at the former Marion True Value property. For more information or to RSVP for the free hitting assessment, contact Colby Davis at 270-994-2019.

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
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
Duck	Dec 7 - Jan 31
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

Top KY harvest counties

Here are the top deer harvest counties in Kentucky based on KDFWR data as of Sunday.

County	Male	Female	Total
Hardin	1,749	1,594	3,343
Breckinridge	1,541	1,391	2,932
Christian	1,555	1,285	2,840
Hart	1,372	1,224	2,596
Graves	1,281	1,292	2,573
Shelby	1,254	1,301	2,555
Pendleton	1,302	1,245	2,547
Washington	1,257	1,267	2,524
Nelson	1,248	1,222	2,470
Hopkins	1,325	993	2,318
Crittenden	1,147	1,128	2,275
Pulaski	1,381	847	2,228
Grayson	1,166	1,043	2,209

Evans becomes 13th player to reach 1K points

STAFF REPORT
When Elliot Evans scored 20 last week at Carlisle County and eclipsed the 1,000-point milestone, it set the stage for what could be another remarkable feat for this year's basketball team. It's rare to have two 1,000 point scorers on the same team at one time, but Evans joined Anna Boone, who only a few days earlier had moved up the all-time scoring list to No. 2 behind career leader Taylor Guess (2017-2023). Boone went into this week's game at Union County with 1,855 points after passing Cassidy Moss on the career scoring list.

Now, Jordyn Hodge could make this an exceptionally rare lineup by joining the 1,000 Point Club, too. She started the week only 250 points away. Crittenden County High School has never had a team with three 1,000 point scorers in the same lineup.

The Lady Rockets played at Union County Tuesday, but results were not available for this week's newspaper because of an early Christmas deadline.

Victory at Carlisle County
Evans and Hodge both scored 20 points in Crittenden's 64-44 win last Thursday at Carlisle County. Evans became the 13th Lady Rocket in school history to cross the 1K point plateau as CCHS improved 6-2. Crittenden dropped seven three pointers in the first half, racing out to a substantial lead then unloading the

Evans' Scoring Year by Year			
Senior season*	84		
Junior season	245		
Sophomore season	321		
Freshman season	241		
8th grade season	125		
CURRENT TOTAL	1,016		
*Through last week's games			
LADY ROCKET 1K POINT CLUB			
Taylor Guess	2,643	2017-23	
Anna Boone	1,855	2021-Present	
Cassidy Moss	1,829	2012-17	
Jeanne Hinchee	1,628	1973-78	
Shannon Collins	1,534	1979-85	
Jessi Hodge	1,448	2006-11	
Morgan Doms	1,333	2000-04	
Chelsea Oliver	1,288	2011-15	
Vanessa Gray	1,123	1981-84	
Jessie Mathieu	1,065	2001-06	
Nahla Woodward	1,037	2015-21	
Madison Champion	1,017	2014-18	
Elliot Evans	1,016	2021-Present	

bench for much of the second half.

Girls off to Florida next week
The girls will be off for a few days for Christmas before flying to Florida to play over the holiday break. They open play in the KSA Holiday Tournament at Gaylord Palms Resort in Orlando.

Crittenden's girls open against Medina High School from Ohio. Their pool includes Keyser High from West Virginia, First Baptist Academy of Orlando, Fla., North Buncombe High from Weaversville, N.C., Quaker Valley from Leetsdale, Pa.; Riverview High from Sarasota, Fla., and Rye High School from New York. Based on MaxPreps data, the Sarasota team appears to be among the strongest in the field with a 6-3 record at the end of last week's play. From the Cleveland area, Medina, the Lady Rockets' opening opponent, was 3-3



Senior guard Elliot Evans, posing with Coach Shannon Hodge, scored 20 points at Carlisle County last Thursday and became the 13th player in school history to eclipse the 1,000 point milestone.

after its first six games. The Battling Bees average scoring 48 points a game and the team is ranked No. 4 out of eight in the Greater Cleveland Conference. Tournament teams from across the country are divided into 8-team pools where they play three games then advance to bracket play to close out the event. KSA offers a fee-based streaming platform on its website so

fans back home can watch games online.

Crittenden Co. 25 42 58 64
Carlisle County 8 20 33 44
CRITTENDEN – Boone 12, Evans 20, Hodge 20, Federico, Rushing 10, Holeman, Stewart, Berry 2, Champion, Rich, Kemmer. FG 25. 3-pointers 7 (Evans 3, Boone 2, Hodge 2). FT 7-10. CARLISLE COUNTY – Perez 2, Bruer 11, Tornsborough 2, Hogancamp 22, Webb 7. FG 17. 3-pointers none. FT 10-17.

Rockets tripped up in games at St. Mary event

STAFF REPORT
At Paducah St. Mary's Christmas Tournament Monday, Rocket basketball fans got a glimpse of what could come down to a battle for third place in the Fifth District by season's end.

Crittenden drew Trigg County in a tournament consolation match and lost 68-44 to its district foe, which will be on the schedule again Jan. 13 at Rocket Arena.

Crittenden County lost control of the game early in the second half as Trigg County used a 16-0 run. Brady Dayberry scored 11 points to lead Crittenden County, while eighth-grade guard Kash Myers added a season-high nine.

With Lyon, ranked in the top 20 statewide, and Livingston featuring a powerful inside-out punch this season, the Rockets and Wildcats will likely end up duking it out for third in the district.

Crittenden lost all three of its games in the Paducah holiday tournament and was 0-11 going into a matchup Tuesday of this week at Murray High. Results of that game were not available due to an earlier Christmas deadline for this week's newspaper.

Rockets fall to South Fulton
Crittenden County fell to 0-10 on the season Saturday with a 71-33 loss to Tennessee school South Fulton in the second round of the St. Mary Christmas Tournament.

The Rockets continued to struggle offensively, shooting just 5-26 from the floor in the first half and 4-for-27 in the final half.

Point guard Logan Martin

led the way with a half dozen points while Jack Porter, Brady Dayberry and Brayden Poindexter were close behind with 5 points apiece.

Poindexters combine for 26
The Poindexter brothers combined for just about half of the Rockets' points in a 77-36 loss to host St. Mary in the opening round of its annual Christmas Tournament Thursday.

Sophomore Conner Poindexter netted 14 points and senior Brayden Poindexter dropped a dozen. The older one had five fielders, including one three, and the younger sibling scored eight of his team-high at the foul line.

CRITTENDEN vs Trigg – Martin 3, Porter 2, Dayberry 11, Topp 3, B. Poindexter 4, Young 4, Ellington 0, C. Poindexter 4, Myers 9, Bumpus 4, Jones 2, Bryant 0.

Crittenden County 9 20 30 33
South Fulton, Tenn.22 40 59 71
CRITTENDEN – Ellington 3, Porter 5, Bumpus 1, Bryant, Topp 6, Dayberry 5, Jones, Myers, Hutchison, Martin 6, C.Poindexter 2, Hughes, B.Poindexter 5, Counts. FG 11. 3-pointers 5 (Ellington, Porter, Dayberry, Martin, B.Poindexter). FT 6-12.
South Fulton – Joyner 22, Barclay 3, Cooley 7, Gore, Rice 10, Choate 13, Mulcahy 13. FG 26. 3-pointers 4. FT 15-18.

Crittenden County 6 15 24 36
Paducah St. Mary 30 51 73 77
CRITTENDEN – Martin, Ellington, Topp, B. Poindexter 12, Porter, Bumpus 1, C.Poindexter 14, Myers 2, Hughes, Bryant 4, Murray, Counts, Hutchison, Jones. FG 11. 3-pointers 2 (Jones, B.Poindexter). FT 12-18.
ST. MARY – Mayes 13, Griffith 7, Nichols 11, Puckett 17, Spurr 9, Fearon 4, Iliavkase 6, Pittman 10. FG 31. 3-pointers 7. FT 9-9.



Rocket senior Brayden Poindexter mixes it up against Union County in a game earlier this month at Rocket Arena.



Crittenden County freshman Roane Topp (5) cuts loose a pass during the Rockets game last week at home against Lyon County.



Champions!

Crittenden County's seventh-grade basketball boys recently captured the 5th District championship. Players are (front from left) Coach Brian Farmer, Tripp Martin, Barrett Brown, Landry Pollard, Knox Champion, Grayson Littlefield, Bode Merrill, Wyatt Craft, (back) Assistant Coach Doug Campbell, Assistant Coach Brandon Stinnett, Brady Polk, Noah Moss, Eastyn Howell, Conley Palmer, Eli Taylor, Axel Topp and Rex Boone. Not pictured were Gannon Taylor and Parker Lingerfelt.

JAG program marks growth with ribbon-cutting

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Middle School JAG program marked its growth and early success with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony last week at Rocket Arena.

The event recognized the presence of Jobs for America’s Graduates at the middle school level and highlighted the program’s impact on students in just its first two years. Nearly 50 middle school students currently participate in the program.

Middle school JAG coordinator Jared Brown was joined for the ceremony by JAG Program Manager Stephanie Rickman, Superintendent Tonya Driver, Middle School Principal Ashley Frederick, and students enrolled in the program. Also attending were Emma Coleman, JAG coordinator at Crittenden



Students (in front) participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (from left) Abel McKinney, Jase Asbridge, Ella Belt and Axton Rich.

County High School, and several students from the high school program.

The middle school initiative grew out of the success of JAG at the high school, which is

employability skills.

Brown said a central focus of the program is helping students challenge themselves beyond familiar boundaries.

“Learning to be comfortable with being uncomfortable is an integral part of becoming a leader,” Brown said.

He added that preparing students for the transition to high school is a key objective of the middle school program.

“In the end, I want to send honest, empathetic, accountable, resilient, and decisive young men and women to high school where it is my expectation they continue to grow,” Brown said.

JAG is a nationally recognized program designed to support students through career exploration, leadership training and personal develop-

ment, with the goal of improving graduation rates and long-term success. At the middle school level, the program emphasizes building confidence, communication skills and teamwork while introducing students to career pathways and goal setting.

School officials said the ribbon-cutting symbolized more than just a new program location — it represented a commitment to investing in students earlier and providing them with tools to succeed academically and personally.

With strong participation numbers and continued support from district leadership, the middle school JAG program is expected to remain a key part of the district’s efforts to prepare students for high school and beyond.

Belt serving as appointee on 2026 Elections Board

Magistrate Scott Belt will serve as Sheriff Evan Head’s 2026 appointee to Crittenden County Board of Elections. Both are Republicans.

Kentucky sheriffs, statutory members of their respective county’s four-member Board of Elections, must temporarily resign their seat during any year they are seeking office. Since Head is seeking re-election next year, the selection to fill his seat is his own. Belt, who has previously served as former Sheriff Wayne Agent’s appointee to the Board, will not be seeking re-election to his District 6 seat on Crittenden Fiscal Court; therefore, no conflict exists.

Belt’s appointment was acknowledged at Friday’s Board of Elections regular meeting.

In addition to the sheriff, County Boards of Elections are comprised of the county clerk, who serves as chair of the group, and both Republican and Democratic county party committee appointees. County Clerks may, but are not obligated to temporarily resign their seat during a year in which they are seeking election.

Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor will retain his seat on the Board in



Scott Belt

2026 and will be joined by Belt, Democrat Kathleen Guess and Republican Jared Byford in administering election laws and supervising registration and purgation of voters within the county.

Also at Friday’s meeting, the Board set its 2026 calendar for regular meetings, which are open to the public. Generally, meetings are set for 3:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in which there is no election, save Feb. 3; and all meetings are held at Crittenden County Office Complex. The Board meets in all-day session on May 19 and Nov. 3 for the primary and general elections, respectively. It will also meet at noon on May 21 and Nov. 5 for post-election certification and audits.

The 2026 meeting schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb 3 at 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 10 at 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 14 at 3:30 p.m.
Primary Election Day: All day Tuesday, May 19
Thursday, May 21 at noon for certification, SBE 49, post-election audit
Tuesday, June 9 at 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, July 14 at 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 11 at 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 3:30 p.m.
General Election Day: All day Tuesday, Nov. 3
Thursday, Nov. 5 at noon for certification, SBE 49, post-election audit
Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 3:30 p.m.



NOVEMBER 2025

Activity Report

Here is Crittenden County Sheriff Evan Head’s monthly activity for his department.

	Nov.	2024 Mo.Avg.
Collisions Investigated	9	7.6
Complaints	43	66.8
Papers Served	34	53.0
Unsuccessful Service Attempts	3	5.5
Total Service Attempts	63	104.1
Transports	1	4.3
Special Detail	87	58.7
Training Hours	300.5	41.1
Verbal Warning	19	24.4
Courtesy Notice	1	—
Criminal Citation	22	17.7
Officer Assist	5	5.7
Building Checks	82	50.6
Total Manhours	956	832
Bailiff Court Hours	128	86.7
Cases Opened	2	8.0
Felony Arrests	8	8.8
Followup Investigations	2	29.3
Misdemeanor Arrests	8	10
Motorist Assists	1	8.3
DUIs	0	2.5
Traffic Citations	4	14.1
General Policing	224	156
Call for Service	31	21

SHERIFF EVAN HEAD

CITY OF MARION NOTICE OF PASSAGE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE 25-20: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 25-10 THE PAY PLAN FOR CLASSIFIED CITY EMPLOYEES AND NON-ELECTED OFFICIALS AND SETTING COMPENSATION FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026, AND ADOPTING THE PAY PLAN FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS FOR THE SAME FISCAL YEAR

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Marion, Kentucky, at its regular meeting held on December 15, 2025, at 5:00 o'clock p.m., gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Marion Code of Ordinances, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at a regular meeting of the City Council held on November 17, 2025, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

This Ordinance amends the Pay Plan to provide a 5.9% increase to the City Treasurer in the amount of \$55,000.00.

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

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

December 15, 2025

Sex crimes among 11 indictments by jurors

STAFF REPORT

A Livingston County grand jury returned a series of indictments this month. A grand jury’s role is limited to determining whether sufficient probable cause exists for charges to proceed in circuit court; it does not determine guilt or innocence.

•Mary Rebecca Penn, 36, of Marion was originally charged with a felony wanton endangerment count, but the case was amended to a misdemeanor. She is now charged with second-degree wanton endangerment and third-degree terroristic threatening, both misdemeanors. Her case was remanded to district court.

•David R. Morris, 55, of Owensboro was indicted for felony first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. Morris was arrested Aug. 3 when a search warrant was executed at a residence on Iuka Road near Grand Rivers in connection with an ongoing investigation into illegal drug activity, according to a police citation.

•Donald V. Moore Jr., 63, of Marion was indicted for felony first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), along with charges of speeding, reckless driving, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, resisting arrest and first-offense DUI. Court records

LIVINGSTON COUNTY GRAND JURY

indicate the charges stem from a February 2023 traffic stop after deputies observed a silver Ford Escape swerving across the roadway. Investigators allegedly found a digital scale and drug paraphernalia inside the vehicle. Officers also reported discovering bags of suspected meth on the ground and in Moore’s hand. Deputies seized \$2,241 believed to be drug proceeds.

•Corey J. Stokes, also known as Wolf Rezz, 26, of Glen Allen, Va., was indicted on a direct submission for prohibited use of an electronic communication system to procure a minor for sex.

•Lori Kinnes, 57, of Burna was indicted on two counts of indecent exposure, along with charges of public intoxication, second-degree disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, two counts of third-degree assault and two counts of third-degree terroristic threatening. According to court records, Livingston County sheriff’s deputies responded to Salem on Oct. 2 following reports of a naked woman yelling at passing vehicles. Deputies located Kinnes behind a residence at 101 E. Main St., where she allegedly appeared incoherent and under the influence of an illegal substance. During the arrest, she allegedly resisted, fell to the ground and kicked Deputy Caleb Kindred in the groin.

During transport, she allegedly threatened Kindred and Sheriff Bobby Davidson, according to a citation.

•Karsten Johansen, also known as Glenn Johansen, 67, of Ledbetter was indicted on a direct submission for first-degree sexual abuse.

•Elizabeth Edwards, 38, of Paducah was indicted for first-degree possession of a controlled substance (cocaine), along with possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and careless driving.

•James B. Wurth, 47, of Benton was indicted for flagrant nonsupport.

•Jayson P. Workman, 47, of Smithland had a felony assault charge amended to fourth-degree assault and was indicted on remaining charges of second-degree criminal mischief, third-degree terroristic threatening and felony intimidating a participant in the legal process.

•Stephen Wade Norville, 46, of Barnhart, Mo., was indicted for first-degree fleeing or evading police, along with ATV violations and operating a motor vehicle without a license.

•Kevin George, 39, of Smithland was indicted for felony second-degree strangulation, along with misdemeanor charges of fourth-degree assault and operating on a suspended or revoked operator’s license.

EMS

Continued from page 1

county is looking at January or February to begin that process, which would reset the timeline for selecting a long-term provider.

In November, the county had received competing proposals from Com-Care and AmeriPro Health Ambulance outlining a range of coverage levels and

costs, from single-unit 24-hour advanced life support service to expanded multi-unit staffing models. Neither will be accepted at this time based on new developments.

Newcom said the extension gives the fiscal court flexibility to review service models, financing and long-term sustainability before making a final decision on the future of ambulance service in Crittenden County.

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Chamber makes Guess its first Home Grown Hero



Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce President Rebecca Woodall presented former Peoples Bank President Gordon Guess with the Chamber’s Home Grown Hero Award for December, recognizing a lifetime of service to Marion and Crittenden County.

STAFF REPORT
Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce recently presented Gordon Guess with its very first Home Grown Hero Award. As part of a new effort, the Chamber plans to recognize local individuals each month for their service to the community.
Chamber President Rebecca Woodall visited with Guess at his home to make the presentation.
Guess, 89, is a former Peoples Bank president. He grew up in Marion and attended Columbia Military Academy in Tennessee before graduating from Vanderbilt University with a degree in economics and business administration. He served in the U.S. Army, retiring as a captain after three years of active duty, including service connected to the Berlin crisis. While stationed in South Dakota, he played semi-professional baseball, a passion that would later shape much of his civic legacy.
After early banking work in Louisville and Florida, Guess returned to Marion in 1973 to work alongside his father, Neil

Guess, who founded Peoples Bank. Following his father’s death in 1974, Guess became bank president, a role he held for 33 years until retiring in 2007 after selling the bank.
Guess served two three-year terms on the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Louisville Branch. He helped organize and chair the Kentucky Community Bankers Association, and was deeply involved in Republican politics. He served as president of the Crittenden County GOP, was a delegate to the 1980 Republican National Convention in Detroit that nominated Ronald Reagan, and worked closely over the years with leaders such as Mitch McConnell and Hal Rogers.
In Marion, Guess played a central role in numerous civic projects, including helping establish the local economic development corporation, chairing the library building committee, serving on the hospital board during a period of expansion, supporting youth and recreational soccer, and operating grocery businesses in Marion and Salem. He also

raised three children in the community.
Sports have been another defining thread of Guess’ life. Known locally as “Mr. Baseball,” he founded the Marion Bobcats franchise in 2008 and helped revive organized baseball in the region through what became the Ohio Valley Collegiate Baseball League, where he remains active. The high school baseball field at Marion-Crittenden County Park was named in his honor. Guess also spent years broadcasting baseball, basketball and football games on WMJL Radio, earning recognition from the National Semi-Pro Baseball Hall of Fame for his media contributions.
Guess recently published a book of his memories and interesting stories. It is available at the public library.
The Home Grown Hero Award honors individuals whose commitment and leadership have left a lasting impact on the community, a description that chamber leaders said fits Guess’ decades of service in banking, sports, civic life and public affairs.

Chamber of Commerce launches online calendar for list of communitywide events

BY REBECCA WOODALL
CHAMBER PRESIDENT
“There’s just nothing to do in Crittenden County.”
We have all heard it, and if we are honest, most of us have probably said it at least once. But more often than not, it is not true. What we sometimes lack is not activity, but awareness.
Crittenden County is full of people who care – people who show up, volunteer, organize, plan and pour their hearts into creating things for our community. There are events. There are opportunities. There are things worth being part of.
What often gets in the way is communication. Event organizers do

CRITTENDEN CHAMBER

their best to find a good date, but no one has access to everyone else’s calendar. The result is overlap, missed opportunities and the impression that nothing is happening when, in reality, plenty is.
That is why the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce has rolled out a new community calendar.
The calendar is available at the following websites:
www.CrittendenCounty-Chamber.org
www.The-Press.com
www.DiscoverMarion.com
On any of these sites,

residents can see what is already planned and submit their own events. You can also subscribe to the calendar to receive updates as new events are added and sync it with your own digital calendar.
This gives our community a shared space – a common view – and a simple way to stay connected. It helps families plan. It helps organizations avoid competing for the same audience. And it helps every group, large or small, feel seen.
More than anything, it reminds us that our community is alive and active, even when it does

not always feel that way.
My hope is that this calendar helps us show up for one another. That it keeps good events from stacking on top of each other. That it allows more people to participate, not fewer. And that it reminds us just how much heart exists in this county.
If you are planning something, add it. If you are looking for something to do, check it.
And the next time someone says, “There’s nothing going on here,” you can gently point them to the calendar – and maybe smile a little – knowing that Crittenden County has more going on than ever.

Wishing everyone a Blessed Christmas & Happy New Year

It's an honor to serve this community as your sheriff.

I will be seeking RE-ELECTION in the spring primary & would APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE & SUPPORT.

Re-Elect

Evan

HEAD

SHERIFF

Merry Christmas

‘TIS THE SEASON FOR CHANGE

VOTE NELSON COUNTY ATTORNEY

May 19th

PAID FOR BY CHAD NELSON FOR CRITTENDEN CO ATTORNEY



**BRASHER
PRESCHOOL CLASS**
🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁
Dear Santa
All I want for
Christmas is..

A mini kitchen, Barbie house, a new headband.
Love, Georgia

Truck, tractor, racecar.
Love, Ridge

Number puzzle, letters puzzle, flash cards.
Love, Demetrius

Kpop, tablet, earrings.
Love, Amara

Chocolate, peanut butter, toys.
Love, Sophia

Dinosaur rebirth, gator piranha pillow, crash the pharrot game.
Love, Thad

Rumi Barbie, Zoe Barbie doll, Mirror Barbie doll.
Love, Greer

Electric scooter, doctor camper, ambulance Ken Barbie.
Love, Sloane

A stapler, A Barbie camper, Kpop.
Love, Adalynn

A dollhouse, a baby Moana, a Barbie.
Love, Dru

A block set, a Spider-man house, Batman toys.
Love, Riggs

A doll, makeup, doll shoes.
Love, Ellie

Sawyer doll, new clothes, pizza.
Love, Sawyer

A Barbie dream camper, Hatchimals, doll with cast and bandaids.
Love, Amelia

A tractor, a trailer, a truck.
Love, Major

A Barbie, "Maggie" doll, a new Barbie blanket.
Love, Hollyn

Cam Ward jersey, fire truck, a lot of toys.
Love, Brooks

**SHANNA'S
PRE-K CLASS**
🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁
Dear Santa, All I want for Christmas is...

Semi trucks, cars and large trucks.
Love, Chandler

A giant semi that I can drive. I do want a trailer too.
Love, Bjorn

Monster trucks, race cars, Ninja Turtle and Pokemon Battle Set.
Love, Jack

Princess accessories, baby accessories. I need princess shoes. A Barbie house and Barbies.
Love, Josie

A race car. I want him to bring a toy.
Love, Noah

A Dollie and unicorn. A phone, a cell phone and a pool.
Love, Leia

A dirt bike.
Love, Elijah

Cheese and a water park.
Love, Ashlynn

A teddy bear, gum and a real dress.
Love, Jordyn

A toy puppy with a collar that can walk and talk by itself.
Love, Kacie

A pink Jeep I can sit in and drive. A big castle and toy phone.
Love, Neveah

An Olaf and Legos.
Love, Willa

Twin baby dolls, two baby chairs and one puppy dog.
Love, Easley

Monster trucks, red car and blue car.
Love, Charlie

Bluey dollhouse, a baby and Gabby doll-house and doll.
Love, Kaylena

A Hulk and super hero action figures.
Love, Cash

Mighty pups toys.
Love, Brayden

Presents, little cars and high speed jump crash.
Love, Easton

Robot snap toys.
Love, Gregg

Magnetic marble track, big blocks and fidgets.
Love, Wilder

**POLK
KINDERGARTEN**
🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁
Dear Santa

My name is Sloane. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me a full pencil box, pony cycle, and play magic. I'll set out cookies!
From Sloane.

My name is Walker. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Monstr truck, toy pig, Remote control lizard. I'll set out cookies!
From Walker.

My name is Harper. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me ponie cycle, Barbie carb, Dogslapaclet. I'll set out cookies!
From Harper.

My name is Declan. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Transformer dinosaur, Transformer dragon, Transformer Godzilla. I'll set out cookies!
From Deckan.

My name is Haisley. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Crabby patties, remote control race car, Magic board. I'll set out cookies!
From Haisley.

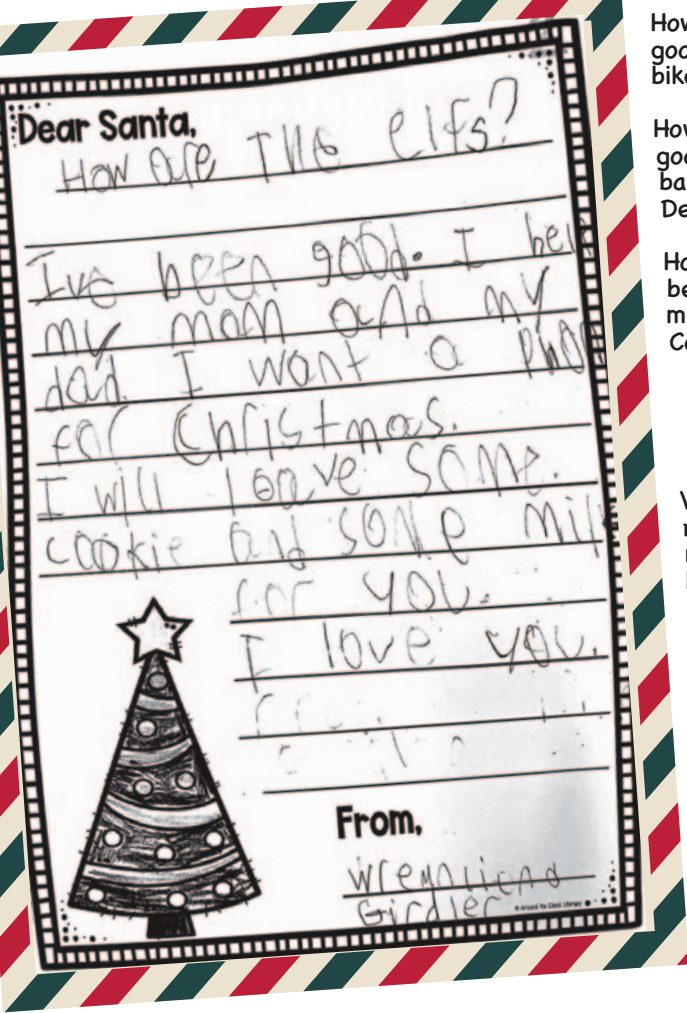
My name is Crew. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Monster Truck, Toy Motorcycle, Christmas Book. I'll set out cookies!
From Crew.

My name is Kalne. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Robodog, skate board, toy mirrocpbocn. I'll set out cookies!
From Kalne.

Dear Santa, My name is Weston. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me RC car, 67 piushydy, cdnny. I'll set out cookies!
From Weston.

My name is Finleigh. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Barbie Houser dolls, ska brod, Barbie. I'll set out cookies!
From Finleigh.

My name is Travis. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring



me Nerf gun, remote control car, Plushie. I'll set out cookies!
From Travis.

My name is Enoch. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me skateboard, Monster truck, Power ranger. I'll set out cookies!
From Enoch.

My name is Mya. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Barbie house, Barbies, Barbie car. I'll set out cookies!
From Mya.

My name is Aaron. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me tractor, jeep, train. I'll set out cookies!
From Aaron.

My name is Leelan. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Dred monster truck, toy tractor, mine craft legends. I'll set out cookies!
From Leelan.

My name is Mirabelle. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Rudolph girl stuffy, Girl Rudolph blanket, dog toys. I'll set out cookies!
From Mirabelle.

My name is Charlye. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me baby doll, treats for my dog, Yello syushmallow. I'll set out cookies!
From Charlye.

My name is Kodie. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me baby boll, Barbie boll, tree house. I'll set out cookies!
From Kodie.

My name is Aspy. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Robodog, Paw Patrol set, iphone. I'll set out cookies!
From Aspy.

My name is Joziah. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Robodog, a dog, backpack. I'll set out cookies!
From Joziah.

My name is Aurora. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Robodog, babydoll, Christmas trees etp. I'll set out cookies!
From Aurora.

My name is Ethan. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Plushy, race car, dinosaur. I'll set out cookies!
From Ethan.

**MARKHAM
KINDERGARTEN**
🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁
Dear Santa

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a febdy beaar.
Love, Rory

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a punching bag.
Love, Luke

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a barbie.
Love, Lauren

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a Ipod.
Love, Tuff

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a duck call.
Love, McCoy

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a phone.
Love, Threasa

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a Labubu.
Love, Ivan

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me monster truck.
Love, Carson

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a bow.
Love, Knox

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a dirt bike.
Love, Abel

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me an army guns.
Love, Carson

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a barbie doll.
Love, Brillee

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a beautiful cup.
Love, Allie

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a twin babies.
Love, Hareer

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a razor.
Love, Carter

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me cat plushie.
Love, Ethan

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a bike.
Love, Bella

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me a babby doll house.
Love, Delilah

How are you. I have been good. Please bring me brown spider.
Love, Cooper

**H. BLOODWORTH
1ST GRADE**
🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁

Dear Santa, Who is your favorite reindeer? I help my mom clen up. I want a baby doll. I left reindeer food for your reindeer!
From, Joycelynn Brown

How are the elves? Ive been good. I help my mom and my dad. I want a phone for Christmas. I will leave some cookie and some milk for you. I love you.
From Wremnliend Girdler

Are you ready to eat some yummy cookies? I have been good this year. I would like a shark toy and a new stuffy I will leave you some mlk to go with your cookies!
From Asher Hale

Dear Santa, How many elves do you have? I have been good this year. I help my mom and feed the animals. I would like a hot wheels car for Christmas. Don't forget to stop at my house!
From Elijah Hazel

How many elves are at the North pole? I have been good this year. I help my mom clean and take care of my sisters. I want new clothes for Christmas. Dont forge to stop our house. there is food for the reindeer!
Love, Braylee Head

What is your favorite reindeer? I help pick up. I want a barbie for Christmas. Don't forget to stop by my house!
From, Journey Jackson

How many elves are at the North Pole? I have been good this year. I help my mom clean and do the dishes. I would like some Stitch stuff for Christmas. I will leave your cookies and milk!
Love, Charlie Jepsen

Who is your favorite reindeer? I hope I have not been bad. I would like sonic stuff for Christmas.
From, Hayden Kirk

Who is your favorite reindeer? I hope I'm on the good list this year. I want a playhouse for Christmas. I will put out food for the reindeer!
From Kingston DeLoach

Dear Santa, I hope the reindeer are being good! For Christmas, I would like a sprunky plushy, a toy car and ramp, and a play station 5. Thank you an dI hope you have a Merry Christmas!
From, Kolton Mayers

Is Rudolph at the North Pole? I have been good this year. I help my mom. I would like a set of blocks for Christmas. I will leave you milk and cookies.
From Baylee McMackin

Who is your favorite reindeer? I have been a good boy. I help my family and my teacher. I want a race car for Christmas. I will leave food out for the reindeer.
From Elena Riley

Is udolph your favorite reindeer? I ahve been a good girl. I help my mom. I want a doll and makeup for Christmas. I will leave food out for the reindeer.
From Elena Riley

I hope the elves are behaving! I have been good this year. I help my parents with chores. I would like a Mi Meaw, Play Station 5, and slime. Merry Christmas Santa.
From Daxton Roberts

Who is your favorite reindeer? I have been good this year. I help my mom do the dishes. I would like a toy stuffed horse thats brown for Christmas. Don't forget to stop at my house!
From Clara Robison

How many elves do you have? I don't want to be on the naughty list! I help my mom clean up. I want a baby doll for Christmas.
From, Bailynn Rushing

How many elves? I always help my mom and my teacher. I would like makeup for Christmas. I will leve you milk and cookies.
From, Renesmae Sitar

How many reindeer do you have? I have been good this year! I clean my room and make my bed. I would like a new mi mouw stuffy cat. I will levea you out some cookies and milk.
From, Aubree Smith

Which is your favorite reindeer? I have been really good this year. I help out a lot. I help my mom do the dishes. I would like a baby doll for Christmas.
From, Maddie Stallions

How many elves do you have? I have been good this year. I help my mom and dad clean. I would like a barbie doll for Christmas. Don't forget to stop at my house!
From, Emmy Teeters

How cold is it at the North Pole? I have been good this year. I help my teacher and work hard at school. I would like play nails and makeup for Christmas.
Love, Makenzie Walters

**J. BEVERLY
KINDERGARTEN**
🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁

Dear Santa, How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a tablet.
Love, Nevada

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a baby doll.
Love, Danielle

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a makeup, skirts and dresses.
Love, Hadley

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a Anna and Else.
Love, Lynlee

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a dinosaurs.
Love, Kayson

How are you? I have been good and bad. Please bring me a dirt-bike.
Love, Draedin

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a doll. Love, Hatti

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a 3-D printer. Love, Riley

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a Jurassic world playset. Love, Jaxton

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a four hot wheel city tracks. Love, Declan

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a american girl doll. Love, Annie

How are you? I have been good and bad. Please bring me a school supplies. Love, Trae

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a transformer. Love, Jameson

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a mortorcycle. Love, Jaxson

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a chocolate. Love, Roselynn

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a nintendo switch z. Love, Gabriel

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a toy gun. Love, Daxton

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a spiderman toy with wings.
Love, Isaiah

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have been both. Please bring me a pink motorcycle.
Love, Caroline

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a Bluey toys. Love, Bella

How are you? I have been goob. Please bring me a baby doll. Love, Gen

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a reindeer. Love, Mil-lie


How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a barbie doll. Love, Elena

Christmas Greetings



CUTTER SINGLETON
Marion City Council

How are you? I have been good. Please bring me a Bluey toy. Love, Charlotte

MRS. DENISE KINDERGARTEN

Dear Santa,
My name is Tripp I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me bat man, BB gun, bicycle. I'll set out cookies! From, Tripp

My name is Myles. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me legos, socks, dinosaur toys. I'll set out cookies! From, Myles

My name is Ryleigh. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me baby dolls, dr. set, barbie doll hosue. I'll set out cookies! From, Ryleigh

My name is Addai. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me nin-tenll switch, x box ph, phone. I'll set out cookies! From, Addai

My name is Makenna. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Barbie dream hosue, bar-bie car, puzzles. I'll set out cookies! From, Mak-enna

My name is Kolson. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me hot wheelsts, slime, m d gnetss. I'll set out cookies! From, Kolson

My name is Emersyn. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me kitchen, mgkkep, legos. I'll set out cookies! From, Emersyn

My name is Lawson. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me bubbles skincare, slime, pih ledaboay doll. I'll set out cookies! From, Lawson

My name is Delta. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me oc-topus, python, dinosaurs. I'll set out cookies! From, Delta

My name is Ella. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me bar-bie dream house, i pad, phone. I'll set out cookies! From, Ella

Dear Santa,

My name is Atlas. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me roblox card, lego, plushies. I'll set out cookies! From, Atlas

Dear Santa,
My name is Miles. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me legos, pludo, id bubou leos. I'll set out cookies! From, Miles

My name is Will. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me skate board, slime, bicycle. I'll set out cookies! From, Will

My name is KJ. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me new toys, barbie, p.j's. I'll set out cookies! From, KJ

My name is Barid. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me plushir, heli-copter, dinazaur. I'll set out cookies! From, Baird

My name is Myles. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me legos, socks, dinosaur toys. I'll set out cookies! From, Myles

My name is Elijah. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Venom, Spiderman, Superman. I'll set out cookies! From, Elijah

May name is Ethan. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me 1. Legos. 2. Monster Truck. 3. Race cars. I'll set out cookies! From, Ethan


My name is Storm. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Labubu, toys, legos, I'll set out cook-ies! From, Storm

My name is Jaxdy'dyn. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me bicycle, venom doll, new toys. I'll set out cookie! From, Jax-dy'dyn

My name is Jacob, I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me Hot Wheels, monster truck, writing book. I'll set out cook-ies! From, Jacob

My name is Taylyn, I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me a phone, stitch phone case, doll clothes. I'll set out cookies! From, Taylyn

My name is Addylhand, I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me a dog, BB gun, doll house. I'll set out cookies! From, Addylhand

MRS. ANN 1ST GRADE

Dear Santa,
Why do you not deliver to naughty kids? This year I have been very good. For Christmas I want a new iPhone 17, and an ultra batman bot. From, Lincoln Capello

where do you git your elves from? This year I have been good. For Christmas I want a drt bike and anlencik skudr Ip iphone. From, Trail Per-ryman

How does your sleigh work? This your I have

been very good. For Christmas I want labu-bu clothes new shoes. Be safe Merry Christmas. From, Camreigh Venarle
How do reindeer fly? This year I have been ok. For Chrismas I want a toy brat, a toy car, and santa car. From, Jax Boone

How is the elves? This year I have been a little naughty. For Christmas I want a makeup vani-

ty, and a little alive pet a drones and a labubu. I love Santa. Be safe! From, Leighton oliver

How do you deliver pres-ents to children all over the world in 1 night? This year I have been good and helpful/ For Christ-mas I want a barbie dream house. From, Mck-enna Croft

Happy HOLIDAYS



From the
Cooperative Extension Service

Crittenden County Office

Leslea Barnes - 4-H Agent, Dee Heimgartner - Ag Agent
Rebecca Woodall - FCS Agent, Becky Leppek - Staff Support



Wishing our community & friends

Light, Love & Laughter

We hope this holiday season fills your heart and home with a happy glow.

We're filled with gratitude for this community and the kindness everyone here has shown to us throughout the year. Thank you for your support and best wishes for a

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



NCUA

312 N. Main St. • Marion, KY 42064
270-704-4413 • cplant.com

MEMBER SERVICE OFFICES:

LaCenter 270-665-8014 • Lone Oak 270-554-0287
Madisonville 270-452-0261 • Mayfield 270-650-3100
Morganfield 270-285-5049 • Smithland 270-928-1196
Southside 270-442-0789 • Village Square 270-450-0281

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year





INTEGRITY
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115 Sturgis Rd., Marion, Ky.
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How do we not see you? This year I have been really good and nice. For Christmas I want a labu and a bird from Kpop-demonhunters. Be safe. From, Annabelle Brown

How do elves move? This year I have been really good. For Christmas I want Merry Christmas Barbrea Mcoympery ag qb by doll house and toy elvs. From, Saylor Asbridge

Why do you live at the north pole? When dose the reindeers take flight? This year I have been really really good. For Christmas I want a mini kichen thats pink, a heart locket, and hanging earrings. Be safe merry Christmas ho ho ho thank you. From, Presely Snyder

I love Rudolphs shin-

ey nose love santa, this year I have been good. For Christmas I want a hatchimal box and a barbie dream house. From, Charley Smith

Why do you like cookies? This year I been helpful. For Christmas I want a nerfgun. From, Jesse Perez

How dus your elves make toys? and haw dus your rander fli? This year I ahve been really good. For Christmas I want a fone, hatchimal egg and a babubu. Thank you From, Willow Lawless

How do the elves mov? This year I have been helpful. For Christmas I want a fake elf and clothes for it. From, Kora Freeman

Where do yoyr reindeer sleep? This year I have

been crazy. For Christmas I want a snowboard. From, Jameson Federighi

Why does Roudolph hav a shineu nose? This year I have really good and nice. For Christmas I want a smrt ohone a labubu the brd frum k pop demon hunters. Thank you! From, Steve Renfro

Why does Rudolph have shiney nose? This year I ahve bee crazy and ok. For Christmas I want i phone and a stufeubig. Form, Hayden Carr

Why do you like cookies? How do you have magic? This year I have been really really helpful and good and giving love u love u for Christmas I want hatchimal, labubu and a karaoke machine. Be safe! Merry Christmas! From, Birdie Brown

Where did the elves com from? How do the elves macke toys? Why do you liv in the north pole? This year I have been a little naughty. For Christmas I want hat-chimal ans slime. From, Breckyn Henager

Would you let dolsher meet a unicorn? This year i have been very bad. For Christmas I want a drone, a robot dog dig and a to ps five merry. From, Maverick Martin

Why do you like cookies? This year I have been helpful. Christmas I want a nail gel set and American Girl doll stuff. From, Haddy Paris

When does your sleigh take off? This year I hvae been a little pl and good. For christmas I want 67 crushes from

girls, a play station, and a mr laren race car you can drive. Be safe. From, Greyson Rowley

What do your elves like to do in the summer? this year I have been nice. For Christmas I want a doll and a new cup. From, Ava Raye Beard

How do you go all around the world in one night and what powers your sleigh at night. This year I have been a little naughty and I've been ok. For Christmas I want a game boys and a laptop and a ps5. Merry Christmas. From, Bailey Bebout

Why do we not see you at night? This year I have been good. For Christmas I want a labubu. Dallas Lanham

Dear Santa, I'm a good boy. I want make all the

cookies and Danny go and a ball. Love, Max

KAYLA TRAVIS
1ST GRADE

🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁

Dear Santa,

How did Rudolph get his red nose? I have been good this year. For Christmas would like a 3 wheeler electric scooter. Love, Hazelynn Allen

How do you go to every house in one night? I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like a cybertruk that goes in water. Love, Rowen Berry

How did Rudolph get his Red nose? I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like a tablet. Love, Barrett Caleb

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Hope your season is trimmed with every happiness.

May the holiday spirit fill each day with peace, joy, love and contentment.

We wish you and yours the happiest of holidays!



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Salem Clinic



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Marion & Smithland Clinics



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Merry Christmas





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How do you go to every house in one night I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like Power Ranger toy. Love, Maddux Day

How do you go to every house in one night. I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like a camera. Love, Gabi Downs

How old are you? I have been good This year. For Christmas I would like make-up. Love, Milana Hackney

How old are you I have been good this year For Christmas I would like a pink Barbie house. Love, Rose Haley

How do you go to every house in one night? I have been good this year For Christmas I woul like a baby that looks real. Love, Layton Herrin

How old are you? I have deen good this year. For Christmas I would like snow dragon Jellycat. Love, Korbyn Herrington

How many elves do you have I have been good this year For Christmas I would like a vR set luv Oceann Hina

How do You go to every house in one night I have been good this year for Christmas Iw Ould like dinsaurs. Love, Grayson Ku

How old are you? I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like a football water bolt le. Love, Caine Mathews

Dear Santa, How do You stay warm in the slegh? I have been good good this year. For Christ-mas I would like a D Rc 4-wheeler. Love, Bow Morgan

How do you fit down the chimney? I have been good this year For Christmas I would like a monster truck. Love, Christian Overfield

How did Rudolph get his red nose? I have been good this year for Christmas I Would like a remote control monster trucks. Love Brayson Reed

How doy you go to every house in one night? I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like a bike. Love, Karsyn Stinnett

What does Mrs Claus do all day? I have been good this year For chistmas I would like a guitar Love Aerial Taylor

How do you carry all the presents in the sleigh? I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like a skateboard. Love, Creed Travis

How did Rudolph get his red nose? I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like Jordan shoes. Love, Michael Wadsworth

What does Mrs. Clas do all day? I have been good this year. For Christmas I would like a Barbie. Love, Ryan Williams

How old are you? I have ben good this year. For Christmas I want a PSP. Love, Brittian Witt

Dear Santa, How do you go to every house in one night? I have been good thic year For Christmas I would like a tv with a Xbox. Love, Maddie Wring

**CRUCE
1ST GRADE**

🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁

Dear Santa, I love you! I hope the reindeer are being good! I want a big baby doll with a Paci. I have been extra good. Love, Kinlee Alexander

Are you excited to eat some yummy cookies? I have been a good boy! Can I get a big hug for Christmas? And a computer? Love, Roman Hale

I love you! I hope the reindeer are being good. I have been good! For Christmas I want a Phon and air pods. Love, Miley Stinnett

I love youI I hope the reindeer are being good! I have been good! Can I have a Nintendo Switch? Love, Kyler hart

Are you excited to eat some yummy cookies? I have been good this year and helped my mom. Can you bring me a gumball machine? Love, Sage Wheat

Are you excited to eat some yummy cookies? I love you! I have been extra good and helped my teacher. I want makeup and a vanity for Christmas. Love, Millie Sherer

Dear Santa, How are you doing? I have been a good boy. I would like two video games and legos. I love you! Love, Kova Conger

Dear Santa, Did you have a good summer break? Can I get a star warrs light saber? I have been good 3 days in a row. Love, Lukas Faughn

Dear Santa, Are you excited to eat some yum-my cookies? I. Love you. Can I get an elf for Christmas? I have been so good and helped MRs. Cruce! Love, Jase Hurley

Dear Santa, I hope the reindeer are being good. I love you! Can I get Some blue sparkle nails? Can't wait to see what else you bring me. Love, Ileana Godwin

Dear Santa, I love you! I hope the reindeer are being good? I want a big vanity for Christmas and Monster High dolls. Love, Oaklee Wickham

Dear Santa, Are you excited to eat some yum-my cookies? I have been good I want a four wheeler for Christmas. Bye Santa. Love, Brysen Stone

Dear Santa, I love you! I hope the reindeer are being good For Christmas I want to see mom and get toys. Love, Esther Mae Hale

Dear Santa, I love you! I hope the reindeer being good.! I want a phone and ear pods for Christmas. And a computer. Love, Gerdie English

Dear Santa, I love you!

Are you excited to eat some yummy cookies? I would like a camera for Christmas, Love, Dallas Kirk

Dear Santa, I love you! Are you excited to eat some yummy cookies? I would like squish-es, makeup and Barbies. Merry Christmas! Love, Stevi McLevain

Dear Santa, I love you! Are you ready to eat cookies? I Leo you. I would like a computer, makeup and Uno the game. Merry Christmas! Love, Paige Ward

Dear Santa, I love you! Re you exceed to eat some yummy cookies? I would ike a phone, computer and weup. Thank you and Merry Christmas. Love, Addayn Nesbitt

Dear Santa, I love you! Are you excited to eat some yummy cookies? I would like some make-up, slime and a computer. Thanks you and Mer-ry Christmas. Love, Lila Hughes

Dear Santa, I love you! I hope the reindeer are Are you excited to eat some yummy cookies? I would like a hove toy. Thank you, Love Xavier Reed

Dear Santa, I love you. I hope the reindeer a be-ing good. I want a mos. Addd to year. Love, Adam Claybrooke

Dear Santa, I hope the reindeer are being good! I have been a good girl this year! I would like a Grinch costume and a cat robot. I will leave you milk and cookies. Love, Jordynn Turner-Lehocky.

Dear Santa, Are you excited to eat some yum-my cookies? I love you! I really want a Rudolph squishy. Ive been really good! Love, Layla Ann Peek

**MS. SHEWCRAFT
2ND GRADE**

🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁🎁

Dear Santa

I helped my mom with my baby brother. I helped a girl on the bus when people were being mean to her. I help my Uncle Ray open the door.

I help my bus driver close the windows. Since I have been good this year I would like a gas powered RC Car. Love, Hutson

I have been good at school. I help my mom take out the trash. I help my mom pick up my room. I help my dad get groceries. Since I have been good this year I would like a PS5. Love, Kayson

In my opinion, I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I help mom with food and dish's aftr scool I doo my homework good at scool no poot downos. have a safe journey san-ta. sihs i ben so good i would like 100000000\$ and a iphone pro 17 and a wow bbe kittin a gray one reel one. Your frind Serenity

In my opinion, I have been very good this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I helped my mom take the suin out of

a turkey. I helped cut it. I do a lot of chors arond the house I put away cloths. I do my home-work every week without conplaining and its hard. I ofer to play with my brothers. I ask if I can play with my little brother. Since I have been good this year I would like a VR head sete. Your frind Everett

In my opinion, I have been very nice this year I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I helped my mom vacume. It was really fun. ive lisend to the teacher it was eszy. One time I helped my mom with the dishes it was eszy it wasn't bad. ive been safe and doing no put downs since I have been good this year I would like a cute teddy bear and I want it to be pink and I want a pink four weeler. I hope you enjoyed my letter. have a safe journey Santa. Stella

In my opinion I have

been very mice This year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I help peopl clend the rood. I help my mom wosh the dishech. I help my dad mak my bd. I help my dad ford lojy. Since I hav been this year I would like gordin medulslinge. I hope you enjoyed my letter. have a safe journey. Santa. your Friedn, Waylon F

In my opinion, I a m writing you of my good deeds I have tied to show respect to my teacher I play with my fands at reess. I help my mom clean I play with my siter I wut to liv in a derrstat and a phone. Yr frand Kian

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I have been good to my tect. I have been good to my mom. I help my sisters Rian and Reese. I help my mom do the dises. Lego strws. Reid

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Merry Christmas



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Merry Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
May every moment of your holiday be as sweet as you have been to us this year!



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Warm Wishes



Farris Melton, staff attorney; Brandi Rogers, Fifth District Family Court Judge; Wendy Herndon, case manager; Julie Brooks, case manager

Wishing You Peace and Joy,
Love and Friendship,
Health and Prosperity
...This Holiday Season and All Year!



In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds! I hope you have a greet journey Seata! Love, Jayden

I have been good at school becuz i like Mrs. Shewcraft. My opinon I have been good this week. Follow the rules at school. I help my mom got dishes for the dishwasher yesterday. I helped my mom at laundry. I hope you have a nice jorney Santa. I want a cows in space game a cute pink cristmas pinks wearen a hello kitty cokkez oven and roaster. Love, Addie

In my opinion, I have been very nice this year I am writing you a letter to convince of my good deeds. I have been fol- ing dgeshins at school. I helpt my Dad bild the shelves. I helpt my littly cusing wosh his hans and hange his staking. I helpt my Granpal cut wold and stak wold. I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe jurnney Santa your Friend Jack Peek

In my opinion I have
been very nice tis year.
I am wrting you a letter
convince you or my
good deeds. I have been
good at my houws I help
and play wifth M sister I
hap m dad pek up car or
moini pig peal I ham you
sint brother get hes #
cvs I watna I hap m dad

taka a or ploe cuo c n o r
pigeang fo box cor. Love
Bailey

In my opinion I have been very nice this year I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds I helped my dad with the turkey I've been good by helping my mom with the dishes I've been good helping my grandma get a grocery cart I've been good helping my little sister get a toy since I've been good this year I would like a nerf gun and 20 more wure resrs. Love gunner

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a lattr to convince you of good deeds. I help a kid who was't playing. I help people I do wot the teacher says I take out the trash. I clen up. I help my mom. I hep when people drop stuff. I owuld like a cpyuth. I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe journey Santa! Colton W

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I have been good becaues I lisin to my tfecher. I have been good becaues I help my dad with werk. I have been good becaues I help my mom with my sisters. I have been good becaues I have not lost a cube. I hope you enjoy my letter.

Santa. Since i have been good this year I would like baseball cards.

In my opinion, I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I am good because I help my mom with the tree. I am good because I help my mom with the dishes. I am good because I help my teacher with cleaning the board. I am good because I help my dad get his medicine. I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe journey, Santa. Everly

In my opinion, I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I was good at school. I did not push. I was good at home. I helped my mom cook. I was good at school. I did not blur out. I was good at home. I helped my brother do his chore. Since I have been good this year. I want a tablet and a new Ireading laptop. I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe journey, Santa. Your Friend, O'Shea

In my opinion I have been very nice this year I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I have been good because I helped my dad clean up my room. I have been good because I read the closet my nana house. Since I have been

good this year I would like a ring. I hope you enjoyed my letter Have a safe journey Santa. Your Laila

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I deen good at school and home. I have don my chors and I have been nice I help get my sisters phone when she needs it. I help my brother get food. I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe journey, Santa! Your Friend, Haven

In my opinion I have very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I been good at school I listen to my teacher. and I listen to my mom. I been good with my mom. I wash the dishes with her. I been good to my dad because I help him git up I been good to my naber when he gos down the stairs. Your freind Waylon C.

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy. I want a monster truck, a giant motorcycle. I want another monster truck. Love, Lucas


Holiday Greetings

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TRIMMED WITH A WISH



From the brightly
colored packages
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on the tree,
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special season
has to offer.

*Merry
Christmas*

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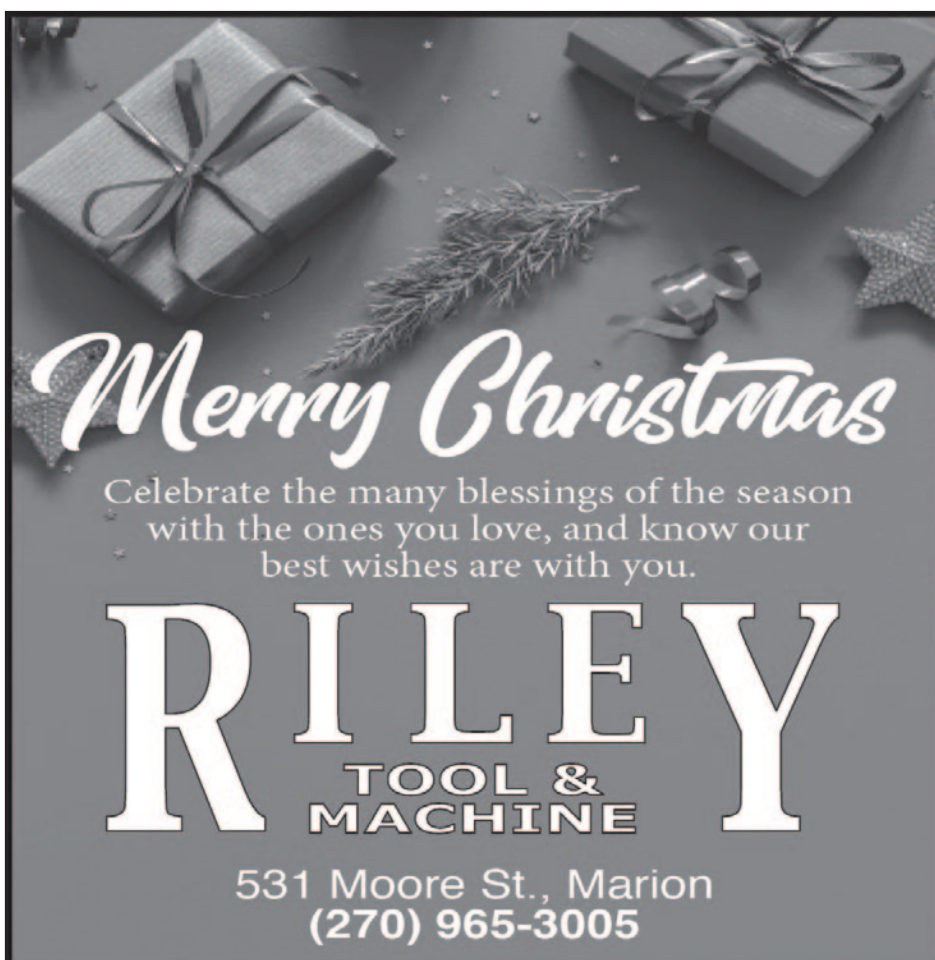
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from all of us to all of you*

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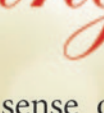
Season Greetings

We know the sense of loss that accompanies the holiday season after losing a loved one.

As an expression of remembrance, we will be mailing personalized Christmas ornaments to families who we have served this year. We will mail one per family, but additional ornaments may be purchased, with those proceeds being donated to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

As always, we truly appreciate the trust you've placed in us, and consider it an honor to serve your family.

*Blessings for the holiday season,
Andy, Brandon, Grace, and James*



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In my opinion, I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I have made all a and b this year. I have been a good stoo-dent this year. I have been a good team mate. Also I would like a xbox this year for Chrstmas. Carson Hill

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter. First, I should be on the nice list because I have got all As. Next, I have helped at the house. Last, I have been good. Also, I would like a ip-hone 17 pro this year if posebel. I hope you have enjoyed my letter. Have a safe journey, santa. Your friend, Lynnlee Clark

In my opinion i have been very nice this year I am wrifing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First I got all A's on my progress report. Next, I trie to be nice to my brother. Last, I listen in class. Also, I would like a VRset this year for Christmas. I hope you enJoyed my letter. Have a safe journey Santa. Your friend, Rylan Reed

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am Iam writting a let-ter to convince you of my good deeds. first, I should be on the nice list because I help my sister clean her room. Next, I got good grades this year. Also, I help my sister clean her ved room. Last, I have also been good team mate on my baseball team. I hope you agree with my an-sirs. Also I would like a for weeler. Love Jon Ross Joyce

In my opinion, I hve been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First, I should be on the nice list because I been nice to my sisters. Next, I have been nice to my friends and family and being helpful. Also, I have got good grades in school. Been a good fea-maet. last, I do my chores and i get rewoded. Also, I would like grace shars merch for Christmas. I hope you enjoyed by let-ter. Have a safe journey, Santa. Henley Zimmer

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I an writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First, I have have had strat A's. Nesxt I help my mom. Last, I have been nice. Also I would like a Pokemon Za this year for Chirstmas. The. End I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe journey. Santa. Boomer Snyder

I been nice this year. I have redes to me sister. I lisnig to me touner this year. I wake up win mom tell me to. I would like a margno dog for my Christmas. Amelia Cava-nah

In my opinion. I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First, I help my mom with dishz. Next Im nice to my friends. Also I help my teacher. Last I made all A and B! one thing I want for Christmas a Apple pen. I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe jour-ney. Sant. Your Friend. Eliza Nelson

In my opinion. I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a let-ter to convince you of my good deeds. First I have helped my mom and my dad. Next Have all B's and one A. Last I been kind to my friends. Also I would like a segway for Christmas. I hope you enjoyed my letter have a sare journey santa. Your frien Quinn Maddux

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First, I have been trying to say yes mam and no mam. Next, I have been nice to my friends. Last, I play with my friends. Also I wold like a iPad for Christ-

mas. I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe journeys and your friend love, Nellie Singleton

In my opinion I have been nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First I have I had strait A's all year. Next, i have been nice to my friends. Last I have helped my mom. Also I would like a camera that shoots out pictures for Christmas. I hope you enjoyed by letter. Have a safe jourey Santa Love, Amaryllis Shewcraft

In my opinion I have been very good this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First, you should put me on the nice list because I washed the house. Next I washed the dishes then, I cleaned my room. Also I cangradgelated my brother. I hope you joyed my lettter. James-on Watson

In my opinion i have been very nice this year I am writing you a letter to convince you fo good deeds I hav been helping people. Next I have been a good team mate. Also I would like a X-box online for or Christmas I hope you enjoyed my letter. Have a safe jour-ney Santa. Love River McKinney

I hav cled my room yir, I have let my dog at side. Reese Bingham

In my opinion I have been helping around miye hos and A/B that is wiye I thack I shud be on the nis list this yir.

Love Chandler Epley

In my opinion I have been very nice this year I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. I been good. I am nice. I like to be nice. I love to help also I would like a new dollhouse thes year for Chrismas. Emily Bryant

In my opinioI have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First, I should be on the nice list because a good team mate. Next I been a good at school. Last I have trid my best at school. Also would like a grevist this year for Christmas. I hope you enoyed my letter have a safe journey Santa. Ben-nett Hunt.

In my opinion I have been very nice this year. I am writing you a letter to convince you of my good deeds. First I lis-tened to my teacher all year. Second, I listened

to my parents all year. Lastly. Buddy cal say the rest::) Also I would like a Eystleen plushe for Christmas. He has a black friday sale so go ahick! I hope you en-joyed my letter. Have a safe journey santa. Your Friend, Clarke Baker.



Peace on Earth

Wishing you and your family much peace, love and joy this Christmas season and beyond.

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Merry Christmas

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Season's Greetings

Tanner Tabor, LaJean Quisenberry and Mary Beth Singleton

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MYERS AUTO PARTS

114 N. Main St., Marion, Ky.
(270) 965-3104

NAPA

Warm Christmas wishes with a hearty Thank You

To all of our customers and friends,
A special thank you to all who donated money & deer for Hunters for the Hungry Program.
From all of us at

FAMILY BUTCHER SHOP

DEER PROCESSING

Farm Raised Beef & Pork for your Freezer

346 Rooster Lane, Marion, Ky.
(off Ky. 654 near Mattoon)
Closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 & 6

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

To our dear friends and customers during Christmas and all year, we wish you contentment, faith, friendship and cheer!

Glenn's Salem staff includes (front from left) Adena Lewis, Rose Banning, Ashlee Teems, Alison Hall, Emily Shuecraft

Glenn's Marion staff includes (front from left) Emily Adams, Carly Tharp, Tashena Hill, Denise Hall, McKenzie Quertermous.

Not pictured: Raye Croft, Francis Tramel, Abby Maraman, Misty Turnero, Shane Hill, Madisyn Switzer, Chloe Hunt

Glenn's Prescription Center

119 E. Main St., Salem, Ky.
(270) 988-3226

Glenn's Apothecary

Located in Family Practice Clinic Building
Marion, Ky. • (270) 965-4101

Keeping Spirits Bright

The staff at Henry and Henry Monuments would like to say thank you for a wonderful year and offer holiday wishes to all our customers.

We know, for many of you this season will be the first without a loved one. Our prayer for you is that the spirit of Christmas can bring you some comfort, peace and joy as you remember happy times past.

When the time is right to remember those lost loved ones with the finest memorials, Henry & Henry will be there for you.

God bless us all and Merry Christmas!

OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY CHRISTMAS EVE
CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY

HENRY & HENRY MONUMENTS

"Where our family has been serving your family since 1881."

207 Sturgis Rd., Marion, Ky.
(270) 965-4514

Season's Greetings

from

FarmersBank&Trust



J. Wade Berry
President & Chief Executive Officer



Andy Hunt
Executive VP & Chief Financial Officer



Paja Crider
Senior VP & Chief Operating Officer



Chris Cook
Vice President & Chief Administrative Officer



Tricia Summers
Compliance Officer



Julie Driskill
Branch Operations & Training Officer | IRA Administrator



Barrett Belt
VP, Security Officer & Facilities Maintenance



Sandra Stephens
Asst. VP, Human Resource Officer/Executive Secretary



Ali Berry
HR & Administrative Support Specialist



Caden DeBoe
BSA/AML & Fraud Support Specialist



Shelby Fruge
Assistant BSA Officer



Chasta Champion
E-Services Supervisor



David Maness
Data Analyst | E-Services Specialist



Michael Henry
E-Services Specialist



Ashton Binkley
E-Services Specialist



Morgan Smith
E-Services Specialist



Rosanne Chandler
Cash Management Officer



Rose Dempsey
Cash Management Officer



Cody Doom
Staff Accountant



Gavin Dickerson
Accounting Clerk



Joel Kientz
Network Administrator



Kara Thomas
Loan Administrator



Kelsey Berry
Loan Specialist



Laura Brandon
Loan Specialist



Devon Atwell
Loan Operations Supervisor



Kiana Easley
Loan Specialist



Danielle Myatt
Loan Specialist



Amanda Winters
Loan Specialist



Tammy Wallace
Crittenden County Office Manager



Jared Byford
Loan Officer



Lee Hobby
Loan Officer



Scott Belt
Loan Officer



Callie Courtney
Teller & CSR



Brooke Grimes
Teller



Janet Pierce
Teller



Marcie Conger
Teller



Vicky Zoucha
Teller



Margaret Campos
Teller



Kaylee Woolsey
Teller

FDIC