

By the Numbers

Crittenden County Facts

Here are figures for veterans living in Crittenden County based on the most recent data, from 2023.

214 Vietnam War

80 Second Gulf War

70 First Gulf War

12 Korean War

6 World War II

447 Number of veterans

415 Male veterans

32 Female veterans

SOURCE: World Population Review



Legislative session is winding down

Kentucky's 2025 Legislative Session winds down this week as lawmakers met Tuesday and Wednesday for the final days for conducting normal business. Thursday and Friday are set aside for concurrence days, before breaking for veto recess until March 27. The last day of the session is March 28.

Library hosting 'Green Trivia' on Friday night

Crittenden County Public Library is inviting residents to test their knowledge starting at 7 p.m., Friday, March 14 at a "Green Trivia" event. Participants can bring a team or compete individually, with all questions centered around the theme of green. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to RSVP by calling 270-965-3354.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Marion City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Monday, March 17 at city hall.
- Fredonia City Council will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, March 17 at city hall.
- Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 18 at the Marion Welcome Center.
- Salem City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, March 18 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Crittenden County Conservation District will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 20 at its office on East Bellville Street.
- Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, March 24 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Livingston Fiscal Court will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, March 25 at the county office complex in Smithland.
- Caldwell County Fiscal Court will meet at 9 a.m., Tuesday, March 25 at the courthouse.
- Crittenden County Public Library Board will meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, March 27 at the library.

SPRING SWITCH - Monday | Thursday

For the spring, we're switching podcast days. Our news and sports program will be on Mondays and Thursdays. Find it two mornings each week at The Press Online.



Gasless Carriage



Tiffany Stewart and her Tesla Model 3

Charged up for the Road

STAFF REPORT

Tiffany Stewart's journey into electric vehicle ownership began a couple of years ago with the purchase of a 2023 Tesla Model 3. Motivated by escalating gas prices and the uncertainty surrounding fuel costs, she saw the black Tesla with a white interior as more than just a car, it was a strategic financial move.

The Tesla came with a sticker price of \$35,000, but with financing, her loan amounted to approximately \$40,000. While she received tax incentives for her purchase, an unexpected financial blow came with the vehicle's depreciation. Within two years, the car's value dropped by \$10,000, leaving her owing more than it was worth. She compared the rapid depreciation to an "old iPhone" that quickly loses its market value.

Charging and range anxiety were among Stewart's initial challenges. Learning to plan trips and understanding charging infrastructure presented a steep learning curve. At home, a standard 110V outlet provided about a 20% charge overnight, but upgrading to a 240V outlet – an estimated \$1,000 investment – would increase that to 40%. Public charging in rural Kentucky proved to be limited, with costs averaging \$15 for a 250- to 260-mile charge. Superchargers, the fastest charging option, are not always conveniently located.

David Fornear, 67, of Marion, faced similar learning curves when he purchased a used

See **ELECTRIC**/page 3



Local church waters Africa's spirituality

STAFF REPORT

Life in Christ Church recently extended its mission work to remote villages in Uganda, funding construction of a church, a pastor's house and perhaps as significantly, a well, all aimed at strengthening local communities and their access to essential resources.

With a considerable financial, spiritual and personal investment, the Marion church helped bring much-needed infrastructure to two rural villages in the Ugandan bush. In addition to these permanent structures, the mission team

See **WATER**/page 10

Perry's life well serving

Flags at the county office complex have been at half staff as Crittenden County has lost one of its finest. Don Perry, a man who dedicated his life to serving his community in ways both seen and unseen, passed away recently, leaving behind a legacy of tireless work, compassion and unwavering commitment.

For more than half a century, Perry was a fixture in this community, touching lives of nearly every resident in one way or another. He was a man of many hats – funeral director, lawman, ambulance driver and even a gravedigger in his early years. Few could match his energy and work ethic, and even fewer could claim to have had such a profound impact on so many.

His career began with a shovel in hand, digging burial sites for the late Wilbur Hunt, back when the work was done manually. From there, he became an EMT, helping run the local ambulance service before moving on to law enforcement where he served as both a city policeman and sheriff's deputy for 44 years. And through it all, he never left the funeral business, offering comfort and guidance to grieving families during their most difficult times.

Perry was not a man who watched the clock. He was a man who believed in showing up, putting in long hours and doing the job right. Whether it was responding to a criminal complaint or orchestrating funeral arrangements, he did it all with a sense of duty that never wavered. His colleagues often marveled at his stamina. Sixteen-hour days, seven days a week were not uncommon. Former Sheriff Wayne Agent once remarked that he couldn't figure out how Perry managed to keep going, day after day, year after year without sleep.

But Perry didn't just work hard – he cared. He knew nearly everyone in this county, not just from his time as a deputy or an EMT, but because he took the time to connect with people. He had a way of making those around him feel at ease, whether it was a routine traffic stop or a somber conversation at the funeral home.

"Funerals are for the living," he once said. He understood that his job wasn't just about handling the logistics of death but about helping people navigate their grief. By his own estimate, he had been part of more than 5,000 funerals, standing beside thousands of families in their toughest hours. And when it came to law enforcement, he had seen people at their lowest, but he never judged, only did his best to keep them safe.

It's hard to imagine Crittenden County without Don Perry. His absence leaves a hole not just in the institutions he worked for but in the very fabric of the community he spent his life caring for. He was the kind of public servant who comes along once in a generation, the kind who did not ask for recognition, did not complain about the long hours and did not quit until the work was done. May he now rest in peace.



Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town



Marion has one EV charge station, which is behind the Farmers Market on Main Street.

Notable EV Models

- Tesla** – Models S, 3, X, Y, Cybertruck, Roadster
- GM** – Chevy Bolt, Equinox EV, Blazer EV, GMC Hummer EV, Cadillac Lyriq, Celestiq
- Ford** – Mustang Mach-E, F-150 Lightning, E-Transit
- Volkswagen** – ID series
- Hyundai** – Ioniq 5, Ioniq 6, Kona Electric
- Kia** – EV6, Niro EV, EV9
- Nissan** – Leaf, Ariya
- BMW** – i4, iX, i7, iX3
- Mercedes-Benz** – EQ series
- Porsche** – Taycan, upcoming Macan EV
- Audi** – e-tron, Q4 e-tron, e-tron GT
- Volvo** – XC40 Recharge, C40 Recharge
- Jaguar** – I-PACE
- Polestar** – Volvo's EV brand
- Fiat** – 500e

KSP files charge for false report

STAFF REPORT

A local businessman who in December claimed that the county attorney physically attacked him outside a local government meeting has been charged with falsely reporting an incident to law enforcement, along with three other charges that largely stem from subsequent social media clamor.

Information from a months-long investigation by Kentucky State Police was presented to a special prosecutor, Lee Riddle of Madisonville, who then submitted evidence to a special judge for the case, J. Foster Cotthoff of Hopkinsville. Judge Cotthoff formally issued a criminal summons last Thursday, and Withrow was served notice on Friday that he is to appear in Crittenden District Court at 9 a.m., on April 9 for arraignment.

The special prosecutor and judge were appointed by the state because the case involves a sitting elected official. According to the state police complaint, Withrow and County Attorney Bart Frazer were involved in a verbal disagreement after the fiscal court meeting on Dec. 19 at the county office complex.

"The defendant reported to the Crittenden County 911 emergency service that



Withrow

See **CHARGED**/page 4

Deaths

Steelman

Diane Steelman, 75, of Sturgis died on Friday, Feb. 28, 2025 at the Linda White Hospice House in Evansville. She was born July 5, 1949 to the late Freda and Willa Belle Tinsley in Marion. She was a member of First Christian Church in Sturgis. She was a retired school teacher where she taught in Union County Public School System.

Surviving are her husband of 48 years, Paul Steelman of Sturgis; sons Wes (Kristin) Steelman of Sturgis and Pat (Mandi) Steelman of Waverly; sister, Sherry Rogers of Marion; grandchildren Tyler (Daelynn) Steelman, Bryce (Ashton) Steelman, Kaden Steelman, Madison (Nick) Bogart, Anniston Steelman; great-grandchildren Cruz, Callahan, Evie Ann.

Services were Thursday, March 4 at Whitsell Funeral Home and burial was in Pythian Ridge Cemetery in Sturgis. Memorial contributions can be made to Union County Happy Pack, P.O. Box 718 Morganfield, Ky. 42437

Perry

Donald Wayne Perry, 73, of Marion, died Sunday, March 2, 2025 at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah. He was retired from the Marion Police Department as well as the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department. In addition, he worked for Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion as a licensed funeral director and with the Crittenden County Coroner's office.

Perry was born in Lake Charles, La., to James Elmer and Doris Fay Musgrove Perry.

Surviving are his children, Athena Marie (Justin) Hayes of Marion, Donald Earl (Anna) Perry of Marion and Dustin Cole Perry of Henderson; five grandchildren, Catherine (Michael) Kinser, Davis Lynn Abshire III, Lily Perry, Olivia Perry and Caleb Hayes; a great-grandson, Colton Kinser; a brother, James Eugene (Carol) Perry of Marion; a niece, Brandy Perry Hyde; and a nephew, Kenny Perry.

In addition, to his parents, Don was preceded in death by his sister, Brenda Perry Ort.

Services were Saturday March 8 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Asbridge Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Asbridge Cemetery, 1937 Browns Mines Road, Marion, KY 42064.

Baker

Elizabeth Ann Baker, 69, of the Mexico community passed peacefully into Heaven's Gates on Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Baker was born in Evansville to James T. "Bud" Allen and Betty Lou Allen.

Baker was retired from Akridge Farm Supply as a parts lady after 22 years of service. She was also a caregiver to the Akridges as well as others in the community.

Surviving are two sons, Phillip Hinchee and Justin Baker, both of the Mexico community; two grandchildren, Wesley Hinchee and Olivia Topp; three siblings, Susan Jones, Yetta (Jim) Freeman and James Albert (Marty) Allen; a niece, Raichel Jones; nephew, Tyree Jones; one other niece; and several other nephews; and her sister-friend, Debra Robinson, whom she loved dearly.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bud and Betty Allen.

Services were Sunday, March 9 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Mexico Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the Mexico Cemetery Fund, 6001 Mott City Road, Marion, KY. 42064.

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Kinnis

Betty JoAnn. Kinnis, 85, of Marion, died Thursday, March 6, 2025 at her home.

She was born on Nov. 21, 1939 to Forrest and Agusta "Gustie" Harris. She was raised in a loving Christian home along with three brothers and two sisters.

On December 28, 1957, she married her love, James Kinnis and had three children. They instilled their love for each other and their love for the Lord in their children.

Surviving are a daughter, Lisa (Mike) Crider; a son, Brian (Christina) Kinnis; daughter-in-law, Karen Kinnis; bonus daughters Judy Fought and Barbara "Cotty" Browning; eight grandchildren, Stacy (Brian) Mitchell, Cody (Lacy) Kuhlenschmidt, Landen Crider, Brandon (Haleigh) Hunt, Sylvanna Hunt, Jamie Kinnis, Chad Kinnis and Kadie Kinnis; eight great-grandchildren, Rylie Mitchell, Eden Kuhlenschmidt, Truitt Kuhlenschmidt, Tuck Kuhlenschmidt, Knox Hunt, Easley Hunt, Rhett Kinnis and Eli Kinnis; and several wonderful nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James Kinnis; a son, Ronnie Kinnis; parents Forrest and "Gustie" Harris; three brothers, Glenn "Shorty" Harris, William "Preacher" Harris and Loyd "Toodie" Harris; and two sisters, Ophelia Dameron and Mildred Croft.

Funeral services were Monday, March 10 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services, with Bro. David Davis and Bro. Kenny Odom officiating.

Burial was in Salem Cemetery.

Morgan

Betty Morgan, 98, of Salem, died Saturday, March 8, 2025 at Salem Springlake Health and Rehabilitation Center.

She was a member of Salem Methodist Church.

Surviving are a son, Jack (Deborah) Mason of Salem; two grandchildren, Andrew James Mason of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Jennifer Ann Mason-Forero of Seffner, Fla.; and three great-grandchildren, Abrelle Mason, Darien Mason and Sophia Fore-ro.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Earl Adufaus and Mada Aida (Hayes) Brown; a brother, Jack Brown; and a sister, Linda Carolyn Brown.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, March 11 at Salem Cemetery with Bro. Steve Tinsley officiating.

Memorial donations may be made to your favorite charity or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude PL., Memphis, TN 38105-9959.

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Ramage

Donald William Ramage, 84, of Murray, died Saturday, March 8, 2025 at Baptist Health Paducah.

He was a member of Dyer Hill Baptist Church from childhood thru much of his life. He served in the Army.

He is survived by; wife, Ollie Mae (Martin) Ramage; sons, William (Janine) Ramage of Cheyenne, WY. and Dr. Jay Ramage of Murray; daughter, Vaneece Alvey of Murray; brothers, James David Ramage of Madisonville and Dr. Thomas Daniel (Judy) Ramage of Roswell, NM.; grandchildren, Shawn (Sasha) Ramage, Kyra Jo Ramage, Scott (Chelsea) Ramage, Eric (Ashley) Alvey and Tayler (Jerid) Schmidt; great-grandchildren, Jasmine Ramage, Hannah Ramage, Gweneth Ramage and Haisley Alvey, Whitley Faith Alvey.

He was preceded in death by; parents, Roy W. and Corene (Peck) Ramage; brother, Vance Ramage; sisters, Vand-line Ramage and Shirley

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Westendorff

Janet Acener Westendorff 77 of Marion, died Saturday, March 8, 2025 at Oak View Nursing and Rehab.

A native of Crittenden County, she moved to Chicago to raise her sons but was happiest when she returned to Marion. She made many friends and acquaintances at Liberty Fuels where she worked as a cashier for 20 years. Her greatest enjoyment came by being with family and cooking, baking and gardening.

Surviving are three sons, Richard (Margie) Truitt, Milton, Ga., Timothy (Ingrid) Truitt of Willow Springs, N.C., and Jason Truitt of Paducah; seven grandchildren, Kristin, Matthew, Kelly, Lauren B., Lauren, Lindsay and Melanie; six great-grandchildren; a sister, Janey Heidrich of Marion; a brother, Danny Chandler of Marion; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Marion Guthrie and Maybell Jones Chandler; her first husband, James Richard Truitt; and her second husband, Larry Westendorff; three sisters, Virginia Brantley, Lillian Brantley and Birdie Workman; and a daughter-in-law, Amanda Truitt.

Funeral services are at noon, Thursday, March 13 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Mapleview Cemetery. Visitation begins Thursday at 10 a.m., and continues until service time.

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Community Calendar

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

- Thursday, March 13**
- Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Center.
 - New Era Homemakers starts at 5:30 p.m., at the Crittenden Extension Office.
 - EAHP will begin at 6 p.m. at the Extension Park.
- Friday, March 14**
- Women in Ag conference will begin at 8 a.m. at the Union Co. Expo Center.
 - EH Spring Seminar will start at 10 a.m. at the Christian Co. Extension.
- Monday, March 17**
- WITS workout starts at 1 p.m. at the Crittenden Co. Public Library.
 - Geology Club meets at 3:30 p.m. at the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum.
 - Budgets for Farm Use will be at 6 p.m. at the Extension Annex.
- Tuesday, March 18**
- Pesticide certification will be at 8 a.m. at the Crittenden Extension Annex.
 - CCES SBDM will meet at 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 19**
- There will be a 4-H Council Meeting at 8:05 a.m. at the Crittenden Extension Office.
 - The Crittenden Extension District Board Meeting will meet at noon at the Crittenden Extension Office.
 - A Walk in the Park will start at 3 p.m. at the City-County Park.



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New! Crittenden County, KY – 70 Acres – \$244,900.00
Located less than a mile from the Ohio River, this exceptional hunting property offers a diverse blend of habitat types, making it ideal for deer, turkey, and waterfowl hunting.

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

Reduced! Crittenden County, KY – 19.6 Acres – \$81,124.00
This property offers an exceptional blend of features tailored for deer and turkey hunting enthusiasts. The landscape is marked by areas of exposed rock that add a rugged charm and unique character.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

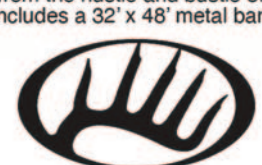
SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 119 Acres – \$699,000.00
Nestled in a picturesque setting, this diverse hunting property offers not only prime outdoor opportunities but also the comforts of a 4-bedroom, 2-bath lodge. Includes 7+/- tillable acres and established food plots!

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

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County paying for signs for Lola

STAFF REPORT

Livingston County officials addressed various community improvements and administrative matters during a recent fiscal court meeting, including new signage, grants for infrastructure projects and personnel decisions.

Lola will soon see new signage, with Magistrate Brad Hunter helping design the 4x8 foot signs. In Ledbetter, a federal grant between \$80,000 and \$150,000 will help fund a sewer pump project, with the Ledbetter Sewer District covering the remaining costs.

The court reappointed all five members of the library board. They are Kimberly Gray, Ina Marie Keys, Greta Ramage, Jennifer Ashley and Annie-Mae Kingston. Magistrates confirmed Tyler Coleman of Burna and David Eison of Ledbetter to two-year terms on the Livingston County Extension Board. Additionally, Tim Capps, TL Maddux and Glenn Hughes were re-appointed to the Crittenden-Livingston Water District Board. Terms for them are Maddux two years, Hughes three years and Capps four years.

A county employee who

LIVINGSTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT

worked two part-time jobs in different departments unintentionally went a year without contributing to the state retirement system. Both the employee and the county will now have to make payments to correct the oversight, with the employee following a payment plan for her portion.

Sheriff Bobby Davidson requested a 75-cent hourly wage increase for the county's part-time animal control officer, which would have raised the wage to \$16.50. The court denied the request, but Judge-Executive Michael Williams indicated that cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) would likely be given in July.

Smith Contracting donated \$130,000, contributing to a \$300,000 improvement project for Ledbetter Park. A \$150,000 grant will help fund upgrades, with additional in-kind contributions. County officials noted that more work and equipment improvements are forthcoming. The park is located next to the Senior Citizen's Center.

An interlocal agree-

ment was finalized between Livingston County and the City of Grand Rivers, involving the sheriff's department. Under the agreement, Grand Rivers will pay the county for a deputy to work three days a week, reimbursing the county for fuel, vehicle usage and hours worked. Sheriff Davidson and Grand Rivers Mayor Tom Moodie worked out the contract details.

Deputy Greg Moyers will be patrolling in Grand Rivers.

Spring cleanup days are scheduled for April 10-12 in Livingston County, with officials considering extending hours beyond 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., due to long lines in years past. Cleanup will take place at two locations, the east end of Mitchell Loop and the County Convenience Center on Cutoff Road.

The fiscal court made its monthly recognition of future leaders, honoring Livingston Central students Emersyn Ramage and Talon Sanchez with certificates of appreciation for their excellence. They will also be rewarded with a visit to a local rock quarry.



As part of Read Across America Week, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom visited Madison Boling's 4th grade class to read What Do You Do With a Problem? The book sparked thoughtful discussion about facing challenges with determination. Students, who had been studying government, also had the opportunity to ask insightful questions about local government and the judge's role. Their curiosity and engagement made for a meaningful visit.



No knobs or buttons grace the inside of Tiffany Stewart's Tesla, just a computer screen that runs everything and will even automatically pilot the car for a \$100 a month subscription price.

ELECTRIC

Continued from page 1

2022 Tesla Model Y with 8,000 miles from Royal Oaks in Paducah. Without formal dealership training, he had to figure out the vehicle's features on his own.

"Regenerative braking was the first thing that got me. It will start slowing down and stop completely," Fornear said.

Despite the initial adjustments, he enjoys his EV.

"I would buy another one, but would want one that I can charge anywhere."

Fornear noted that his Model Y Tesla requires a 48-amp connection and takes five hours to fully charge on a 220V outlet. He can use an adapter for a 110V outlet, but it charges at a much slower rate, adding only three to five miles per hour of charging. For everyday driving, he keeps it at 80% charge but maxes it out to 100% when taking longer trips.

"I haven't traveled much in it. I stay around town, maybe go to Paducah or southern Illinois where my mom lives. If you go down around Eddyville, you can charge it. That's where I would go before I installed a wall charger at my house," he said.

Despite these hurdles, Stewart and Fornear both enjoy the driving experience. Tesla's navigation system, relying on Google Maps, helps with trip planning and charging station locations. Autopilot, available for \$99 per month, provides advanced driving assistance, though both prefer not to use it.

"I tried it and didn't like it," he said.

The vehicles' performance allow for rapid acceleration, with Fornear saying, "I like it because

it is quiet and powerful. I haven't got a ticket yet, knock on wood, but it will really go. I can get around people quickly."

However, the Tesla's unique design posed some adjustments. The lack of a traditional dashboard means all information is displayed on a central screen. Entertainment options such as Hulu and Netflix are available when parked, and cellular data access costs an additional \$9.99 per month. Tesla vehicles also come equipped with a "Toy Box" feature, which allows users to play music, activate light shows and even create humorous sound effects.

"It will play a concert, make the lights flash, windows go up and down, and the hatch go up and down," Fornear said, pointing out that it will also make unique noises instead of peeps and dings like a normal vehicle. One mimicks flatulence.

While Stewart found the Tesla a good fit for her own needs, she is somewhat hesitant to turn it over to her daughter, Morgan, who starts driving this week. That was the original plan, but now Stewart is second guessing the idea. She cites the inconsistent availability of charging in rural areas, the frequent need for travel between towns, and the potential inconvenience of charge planning as concerns for a teen driver.

Additional ownership costs also factor into experiences for these two local EV owners. A \$140 EV tax is now added to property tax, insurance costs increased – by \$280 per month for Stewart – and tire wear is higher due to the vehicles' weight. However, maintenance remains minimal, with only tire rotations and windshield

fluid refills needed.

Fornear, who also has solar panels at home, noted that his EV's electricity usage has little impact on his power bill.

"It takes about 12kW to fully charge at 48 amps, but it's a lot cheaper to do at home than at a supercharger, which costs 32 cents per kW. That's about \$25 or \$30 for a full charge to go about 240 miles," he said.

One standout feature Fornear highlighted was Tesla's Sentry Mode, which uses multiple cameras to monitor the car's surroundings.

"It takes pictures all around it. There's a camera inside, one looking forward, two on each side, and one on the back," he said. "I wake up in the morning and see pictures of cats around it."

The Tesla app allows owners to remotely check their vehicle's surroundings, preheat the cabin and control other settings.

Despite some challenges, both Stewart and Fornear remain optimistic about the future of electric vehicles. Fornear, who studied meteorology in the 1980s and learned early about the greenhouse effect, believes EVs are the logical step toward cleaner energy.

"One day, gas guzzlers will be antiques," he said. "It's all going to change."

While Stewart would certainly buy another Tesla for herself, she said it is not for everyone, considering current rural circumstances. Fornear, too, would purchase another EV but hopes for a model with broader charging capabilities.

There is one public charging station in Marion, which is located behind the Imogene Stout Farmers Market on Main Street.



Here are a couple of screenshots of Marion native Matt Collins in his role on Chicago Fire, which was broadcast last week. He is cast to be in a couple more episodes of the NBC television series this season. Collins currently resides in Chicago. The Press had an article highlighting his acting career in the Feb. 27 edition.



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Nunn-Switch closing March 17-21 for repair

Nunn-Switch Road will be closed from March 17-21 between the Cave Springs Road and Cool Springs Road Wye for major base failure repairs. County officials urge motorists to plan alternate routes to avoid the area during this time. Crews will work to complete the project as quickly as possible to minimize the impact on local travel, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said.

Fire destroyed home on Wilson Farm Road

A Marion couple lost their home Monday night when fire broke out around 11 p.m., on the back porch. Flames had engulfed the entire structure by the time firefighters arrived. Crittenden County Fire Department was first on the scene at the home of Randy and Phyllis Flahardy on Wilson Farm Road. Fire Chief Scott Hurley said that the interior of the home was gutted by fire. He said the Flahardys, their grandson and pet dog were able to escape unharmed thanks to fire alarms inside the house. Firemen and equipment from Marion Fire Department, Salem Fire and Rescue and Sheridan Volunteer Fire Department assisted at the scene. Fireman were at the location until around 3:30 a.m.

March child abuse prevention month

A Proclamation Signing for Child Abuse Prevention Month will take place at 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, March 25 at Marion City Hall. Judge-Executive Perry Newcome, Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers and CASA staff will be present for the event, which is open to the community. Following the proclamation's reading and signing, attendees will have the opportunity to plant pinwheels, a symbol of child abuse prevention awareness. Organizers encourage public participation in support of this important cause.

KY stands out in water

Kentucky stands out as a national leader in drinking water quality and fluoridation, according to new data from the Environmental Protection



Agency. The state received just 139 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) violations in 2023, ranking third-lowest in the country behind Hawaii and Delaware. In contrast, Pennsylvania led the nation with 24,525 violations, while Texas and West Virginia followed with 15,340 and 7,473, respectively, according to an article published recently in Newsweek. The SDWA is a federal law aimed at protecting public drinking water supplies, with violations categorized as health-based, monitoring and reporting, or other infractions. Kentucky's low number of violations highlights the state's commitment to maintaining high water quality standards. Additionally, Kentucky leads the nation in water fluoridation, with 99.73% of its population receiving fluoridated water. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recognized fluoridation as a key public health measure in preventing dental decay, benefiting both children and adults. While some states struggle with water quality challenges, Kentucky's strong performance in both safety and fluoridation underscores the state's success in ensuring access to clean and health-promoting drinking water.

Building inspector deal cut in Livingston

Livingston and Crittenden counties have been searching for solutions after their shared building inspector, Pat Rhodes, fell ill and passed away in January. Livingston County Judge-Executive Michael Williams said Livingston's situation became urgent a couple of weeks ago when Livingston Hospital needed an inspection to move forward some of its expansion projects. "Building inspectors are not easy to come by," Williams said. "The state provides inspectors, but there are very few available across Kentucky. If a commercial building needs an inspection, it could be placed on a waiting list, causing significant delays." With those critical ongoing projects in Livingston County,

Williams reached out to other counties and found that Marshall County employs a full-time building inspector. Marshall County Judge-Executive Kevin Spraggs agreed to allow Livingston County to use their dedicated inspector through an interlocal agreement at no direct cost to Livingston County. Livingston County officials acted quickly, holding a special meeting in February to approve the agreement, allowing the inspector to be on-site the next day. Crittenden County is also evaluating its options for a building inspector, according to Judge-Executive Perry Newcom.

PSC approves well at CLWD's plant

Kentucky Public Service Commission last week approved plans for the Crittenden-Livingston Water District's 300,000-gallon clear well project to move forward, marking a key step in the first phase of a multi-stage expansion. Travis Construction of Marshall County won the competitive bid process to build the clear well near the water plant on the Cumberland River. The new well will give the district a 600,000-gallon water storing capacity at the plant.

Phase 1 includes the design of all phases, surveying, easement preparation and acquisition, geotechnical work, and legal and administrative costs. Construction efforts in this phase will focus on building a clear well at the water plant to increase storage capacity and replacing an aging water line across Kentucky Dam between Grand Rivers and North Marshall. Improving this connection will enhance the district's ability to provide backup water supply to the southern part of Livingston County. The project is part of a larger, three-phase plan aimed at doubling the water production capacity of the plant in Pinckneyville. In 2023, the district unveiled a roughly \$30 million plan to improve distribution and storage, increasing the plant's daily capacity from 2 million gallons to 4 million. The district has secured \$10 million in federal and state funding to support the effort. The Crittenden-Livingston Water District serves about 10,000 customers, including wholesale buyers in Grand Rivers, Ledbetter, Salem, Smithland and Marion.



50 YEARS AGO

March 13, 1975

■ Harold Hunt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy B. Hunt of Marion, was looking for sidewalks to shovel after 8 inches of snow fell the night before. ■ The wall of the old jail came tumbling down as contractors began tearing it down and hauling it away to replace it with a new library. The new Crittenden County jail had been completed two weeks prior and the jailer and prisoners were already in their new quarters. ■ All the county schools except Tolu Elementary were closed Wednesday through Friday during which the state high school basketball tournament was being played. Many school districts closed for the tournament and the break was scheduled because of poor attendance records during the tournament according to Steve Davidson, director of pupil personnel. ■ Mrs. Malcolm Cross, First Vice President of the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs, was the guest speaker of the Woman's Club of Marion's March meeting. Mrs. Cross installed new officers of the club which were Mrs. Ralph Moore, club president; Mrs. Bennett Shouse, vice president; Mrs. Robert Watson, recording secretary; Mrs. Fred Lynn stood in for Mrs. Jack Easley, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Fred Lynn and Mrs. William Tobin, treasurer. ■ Crittenden County High School came home with three team trophies following the championship games in the Fifth District Tournament played at Cadiz. Coach Cindy Almendinger and the CCHS girls team captured a district title with a win over Caldwell County, 50-45. During the boys' championship game, the CCHS Rockets lost to Trigg County and were awarded the runner-up trophy and a spot in the regional tournament. Crittenden's varsity cheerleading squad was judged to receive the first runner-up trophy in cheerleader competition. Crittenden members of the girls' all tournament team were Markeata Brown and Jeanne Hinchee. Danny Hodges was the only boy from Crittenden named to the boys all tournament squad.

25 YEARS AGO

March 16, 2000

■ Crittenden County High School students from Larry Duvall's landscaping class helped Janet James of the Crittenden County Conservation District prepare 2,000 tree seedlings for distribution at a Crayne community meeting. The tree donation was a cooperative effort of the Conservation District and Kentucky Division of Forestry to help restore the shade and landscaping trees lost by local residents in a January storm. Julie Lowery, Ashley Peek, Randy Hayes, Jeremy Montalta and Brandon Travis were pictured helping James. ■ Crittenden County High School senior Joey Rich accepted a \$250 scholarship check from Greg Rushing, president of the Cumberland River Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. The local NWTF chapter made its annual scholarship presentation to Rich during a sell-out banquet at the high school. The NWTF selects a local FFA member each year to receive the scholarship. Rich planned to attend Western Kentucky University. ■ Lady Rocket senior Ashley Turley was chosen as a member of the All Second Region Basketball Team. ■ Head start students got a lesson in billowy after they watched Crittenden County High School graduates Ashley Gass and Max Alexander dissect a cow eye. The students got to see comparisons of the cow eye and the children's eyes, as the iris, retina, muscle and tissue surrounding the eye were pointed out.

10 YEARS AGO

March 12, 2015

■ Special guest reader Jerry McDonald had a captive audience as he read "Llama Llama Red Pajama," to Angel McDonald's and Denise Guess' morning and afternoon preschool classes. Afterward, he told the students he wanted to make a llama balloon to show them and made one wearing red pajamas much to the delight of Madison Gibson. ■ Wrapping up their careers were Crittenden County senior basketball players Chelsea Oliver and Landon Young. Each was named as All-Second Region Players and both of their careers were set to go down in the annals of CCHS sports as being among the best ever. Oliver's career 1,291 points ranked No.5 all-time. Although Young didn't become a prolific scorer until his senior season, the guard had shot himself into school history at No. 30 on the all-time list. ■ Desserts were auctioned throughout a benefit for Happy Feet Equals Learning Feet. Emcee for the event was Mike Crabtree, and Brent White worked the crown during the auction. Anzie Gobin and Karen Woodall were also part of the bidding process. Splitting the night's \$2,000 grand prize were Roger Simpson, Nathan Ratley, Kara Hatfield and Terry Simpson. Happy Feet Equals Learning Feet was created in 2009 by retired Union County coal miner Jerry Baird with the goal to provide shoes to eligible children at the beginning of each school year.

CHARGED

Continued from page 1
Frazer choked him," the complaint reads. It goes on to say that, "Video surveillance revealed there was no physical contact between Frazer and the defendant." Video clips of the incident and audio of the 911 call were published online by The Crittenden Press following the December incident. Withrow, in social media posts, accused the newspaper of editing the video and audio files posted on its website, accusing the newspaper of trying to protect the elected official. Falsely reporting an incident is a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail plus fines. Withrow is additionally charged with a criminal violation for harassment, a Class B misdemeanor for harassing communications and a Class A misdemeanor for criminal coercion. The additional charges stem from incidents on or around Feb. 3, Feb. 16 and Feb. 17 involving either text messages or social media posts, as well as alleged harassment by the suspect for driving by the residence of an alleged victim, revving his vehicle's engine, taking pictures of the victim's house and shining a spotlight into the home. The criminal complaint says that Withrow had "threatened to expose a personal conversation" between two alleged adult victims unless the Facebook page "Change for Crittenden County" was taken off

of the internet. State police say their investigation found that neither of the alleged victims was responsible for the social media page that Withrow wanted removed from Facebook, which had ostensibly been developed by an anonymous author to refute narratives propagated by Withrow on multiple Facebook pages he operates. Withrow's social media pages have been used to make accusations of corruption and paint other narratives about elected officials, this newspaper and its employees, and other private citizens who had responded in an attempt to refute or debunk various posts made by the defendant. The state police charges of harassment and

coercion were issued based on complaints by private citizens, not this newspaper nor elected officials. Two alleged victims have also filed interpersonal protective orders against Withrow. Those cases were initially before Circuit Judge Brandi Rogers on Feb. 25, at which time a continuance was granted at the request of Withrow's attorney, Abigail Barnes. The protective order hearings were reset for March 25. Withrow's purported social media vitriol intensified last fall after his company, Allied Contracting Group, had not been awarded a county government bid for roofing repairs during a competitive bid process. He filed suit against the county,

alleging that it had not properly followed bidding procedures. A local judge and the Kentucky Court of Appeals disagreed, and denied an injunction that would have prevented the county from entering into a contract with the successful bidder, whose price was almost \$360,000 less than the bid submitted by Withrow's company. Withrow was not arrested on the four state police charges filed last week. Instead, he was issued a summons to appear in court. The special judge will continue to hear the case as it moves through court, and Riddle will remain as special prosecutor for the commonwealth.

MARION POLICE activity report

Data below provided by Marion Police Department compare police activity for the month of February 2025 to the same month in 2024. The chart also includes the previous month's totals, year-to-date police activity totals and last year's monthly average.

CATEGORY	FEBRUARY 2025	January 2025	February 2024	2024 YR TOTALS	2024 MONTHLY AVERAGE
Miles driven/patrolled	1,267	1,941	1,340	23,545	1,962.1
Criminal investigations	10	15	16	150	12.5
Domestics	5	3	8	88	7.3
Felony Arrests	0	1	5	48	4.0
Misdemeanor arrests	14	16	5	81	6.8
Non-criminal arrests	10	3	13	112	9.3
DUI arrests	1	0	1	2	0.2
Criminal summons served	1	0	0	51	4.3
Traffic citations	22	13	9	212	17.7
Other citations	20	24	25	285	23.8
Traffic warnings	5	5	1	55	4.6
Parking tickets	0	0	0	1	0.1
Traffic accidents	11	6	0	69	5.8
Security checks/alarms	57	66	54	720	60.0
Calls for service	179	236	188	2,578	214.8



MPD 270.965.3500
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On Facebook Marion Police Department Marion-KY

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Diversity, equity, and Inclusion

Long before the United States ever existed. Long before the imperial power that sent persecuted Christians to what the West calls the “new world,” rose. Fifteen hundred years before the proliferation of confessions, statements of faith, and the endless dividing of the body of Christ there was delivered to us in the form of God in the flesh, the only true teaching about diversity, equity, and inclusion.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

We read about it in the gospels. The rest of the New Testament, mostly in the form of letters, fleshes out for us the implications of Jesus’ teaching. The teaching is there, and it challenges us all the time. The problem is that we are all such abysmal students. It is not for lack of trying. Nor is it a lack of sincerity. I need more imagination and the ability to hold seemingly contradictory thoughts at the same time. I need to be less concerned about defending the holiness of God (he is quite capable of that) and more concerned about breaking down the barriers that keep people apart and at each other. I wonder how different the United States would be if, at any time in the South before 1960, most white ministers would have had the courage and imagination to reach out a hand of fellowship to their black brothers and sisters. Some of whom may well have been blood related. I wonder what the world would be like if Christians woke up in Germany on Nov. 10, 1938, and said, “enough.” Keep in mind that many did at great cost. The history of Christianity is, on balance, good. There are hospitals, orphanages, busi-

nesses, humanitarian projects, schools, universities and myriad other non-profits that benefit all of us more than we know – whether you are a believer or not. But that does not give permission to ignore those things that have been done in the name of the church that have caused harm. I believe that the church is the greatest example of diversity, equity, and inclusion ever. Even with all the mess we continue to make, which no doubt grieves the Spirit of God, it is still true. I do not get to determine who my spiritual brothers and sisters are any more than my physical ones. Even if I say they’re not, it is not for me to say. We are challenged on two fronts which I will put into one sentence. Everyone is accepted provided we all understand that God, through Christ, is in charge. If we simply say that everyone is accepted without understanding God is in charge, there can be no transformation and learning the difference between right and wrong. If we say that only those who agree with my doctrinal tenants are accepted, I have put up unnecessary barriers and perhaps even put myself in the place of God. Idolatry can come at us from any direction. The apostle Paul said in Galatians 3:28, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” What he says in Colossians speaks powerfully to our world today, “Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its prac-

tices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all. Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.” (Col. 3:9-15). What a gift we have been given to have such instruction that demands imagination and courage in a world that is so thoroughly engulfed in the traditions of men that we have trouble teasing out the truth. I long for a world in which there will be no need for protest or using the law to bully others. For this to work, we must stop being gatekeepers. Which is the most tempting ditch for me. We must recognize who is in charge. This will not stop vigorous discussion, but it might stop us from hurting each other so much. I was recently at a conference in which one of the speakers, who had struggled with the recent division in the Methodist Church said, “I just couldn’t go with (the other group), I tried but just couldn’t get there. I do hope I can have the grace to assume that they are serving God and reaching people I cannot, and they will have the same grace for me.” 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.

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legal notice

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, Ky. do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement: Kalysta Jones of 121 W. Central Ave., Marion, Ky. 42064, executrix of Janet S. Brower, deceased, whose address was 121 W. Central Ave., Marion, Ky. 42064. The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on March 26, 2025. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once. (1t-09-c)

Notice is hereby given that on March 5, 2025, Jeremy Spaulding of 3450 Blue Ridge Drive, West Paducah, Ky. 42086 was appointed executor of Daniel Baker Potts, Sr., deceased, whose

address was 6288 U.S. Hwy. 60 West, Marion, Ky. 42064. Victoria Seng, agent for service of process. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the agent for process on or before the 5th day of September, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately. Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-09-c)

Notice is hereby given that on March 5, 2025 Bonita Crowell of 717 Chapel Hill Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed administratrix of Maura Lynn Corley, deceased, whose address was 717 Chapel Hill Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064. Robert Frazer, 200 S. Main St., Marion, Ky. 42064, attorney. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present

the same properly proven as required by law to the administratrix before the 5th day of September, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately. Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-09-c)

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

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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

Tolu Methodist Church

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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

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

Freedom General Baptist Church

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

Marion Baptist Church

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

Crooked Creek Baptist Church

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

Crayne Community Church

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

growing in grace

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

Marion Church of God

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

Marion Church of Christ

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

PINEY FORK CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Speaker: Greg Rushing
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Bible study 6 p.m.
A new beginning, going forward and looking to the future
Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian

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

Marion Methodist Church

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

Frances Community Church

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

Hurricane Church

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

Unity General Baptist Church

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

Schools always centered around communities

From the archives of The Crittenden Press, let's take a look back at those long ago school days that are now remembered with such fond memories. The school was always the center of the communities, and the social events and the P. T. A. meetings were looked forward to by parents and school friends alike. Children's plays, readings and songs were practiced and presented to the parents with much enthusiasm and enjoyment, and maybe a little stage fright, but always with joy and pride for their part in the entertainment.

Sept. 1931 – Hebron School

The P. T. A. met at 2:30 Friday afternoon with a large number of members present and several visitors. A program was given by the school. Steven C. Foster's life was discussed by H. B. Fox and several of Foster's negro songs were given by the school. With their quaint costumes and black faces the children were not easily recognized.

The primer, first, second and third grades gave some songs and drills. Jesse Wayne Alvis read "Kept in." Pasco Hardesty read "In School Days," and Mildred Hardesty read "The Gingham Dog." After the school program Mrs. Jesse Alvis, acting as chairman in the absence of the president, Mrs. Claude Springs, discussed, "What Mothers May Expect of Teachers."

Other projects and activities the school has been working on are: the school children cleaned the weeds, bushes, brush and other foreign objects from the playground Wednesday afternoon. The Weekly Reader, Pathfinder, Outlook, Nature Magazine, and Grade Teacher are being received each week and much interest is being taken in current topics.

A surprise package came from the Pepsodent Company this week. It included materials on the care of the teeth, and figures of Amos'n Andy, the fresh air taxi cab, Kingfish and Bill Day.



Pleasant Grove School students and parents loaded in a truck and headed to Lyon County for a day of fun and learning opportunities with a trip to the Kentucky State Penitentiary and Kuttawa Springs.

Oct. 1931 – Pleasant Grove School

The students of Pleasant Grove were greatly honored Tuesday by having as visitors Mr. Edwin Hadden, Superintendent of Crittenden County. He gave a very interesting talk.

Near the beginning of the school year a trip was planned to Eddyville Penitentiary by the boys and girls of Pleasant Grove, but for different reasons the trip was delayed until Wednesday. About 60 pupils and patrons spent the day sight-seeing. Going to

and from Eddyville the boys and girls studied the lay of the land, fall scenes, etc.

Lectures were given as we journeyed through the Pen, and factories, and the boys and girls were shown all the places of interest and notes were taken.

After seeing through the Pen, the river was visited and Mr. Hooks explained to the boys and girls the building of the dam and its work.

From here we went to Kuttawa Springs. The day was well spent and enjoyed by everyone. From the trip the boys and girls studies nature, history, geography and English. In the upper room Mr. Hooks offered a prize

for the best composition written about the trip. This created much interest, and some splendid work has been shown. We especially wish to thank Mr. Shepherd for taking us in his truck.

The P. T. A. is going to give a real old time, free debate Friday night, Oct. 30. The subject I: Resolve: "Vehicles Have Been More Beneficial Than Destructive."

The speakers on the affirmative side are: Mr. R. Y Hooks, leader, Mrs. Day Stallions and Mr V. C. Stalion. The negative speakers are: Miss Mary Louise Turley, leader, Mr. J. G. Aldridge and Mr. Herman Croft. The subject is familiar to everyone and a real treat is in store for those who attend. For the youngsters there will be a fish pond with plenty of fun.

Mr. Herman Croft, trustee, visited the school several days ago and repaired the window lights.

Oct. 1931 – Barnett School News

A large crowd attended the boxing match at the Barnett School House last Saturday night. A large sum of money was realized for the benefit of the school. The match was between Paul Woodall and Louis Travis. Paul Woodall won the match.

A play entitled "The Hoodooed Coon," is to be presented by the upper grades of Barnett School Friday night, Oct. 30. Everyone is cordially invited.

Oct. 1931 – Colon School News

Quite a lot of interest and enthusiasm is shown this year in school activities. Several things have been added to our room, library and athletics. Among the new things are: A large useful and instructive chart, library equipment and a new ball bat for the ball team.

We have had splendid attendance all of the year, having 12 who have not missed a single day this year. The are: Bennett Eugene Kirk, Charles Edward Kirk, James Lee Kirk, Lorene Kirk, Thomas Kirk, Guthrie Kirk, Dorothy Phillips, Charles Ray Winders, Loraine Stallions, Robert Stallion, Franklin Winders and Martha Helen Winders.

Oct. 1931 – Dycusburg School

The high school and upper grades boys and girls have organized a "Pep" Club. Misses Mildred Ramage and Neoval Ferguson were elected cheerleaders.

On Friday, Sept 25, our boys were defeated by

Tilene in basketball. This was our first game this season.

The Dybusburg Boy Scouts had its usual meeting on Wednesday night, with 100 percent attendance. A number of tests were passed and two members were admitted to the troop. Scouting is a new organization in Dycusburg but it is going with lots of interest. They have been admitted in the Paducah Council and are now Troop No. 39 of Paducah. This troop was represented at the Paducah Camp this summer by Howard Cassidy and Wayne Lott. Prof. W. G. Sullenger is Scoutmaster and has had a number of years experience in this line of work.

On Saturday night, Oct. 10, the P.T.A. of this place will present an excellent program. Miss Lucy Glass of Kuttawa will give a number of readings and Miss Mildred Nunn Perry of Marion will entertain with musical readings. Miss Lucille Thompson of Marion will accompany Miss Perry. Miss Perry and Miss Thompson are teachers in our school. Other numbers will be given by the Black Face Chorus which includes: Mesdames G. M. Graves, T. E. Campbell and Miss Ioleen Ferguson, Messrs. W. A. Lockhart, Ross

Lockhart, Ed Mitchell, J. C. Stone, R. S. Griffith, and R. E. Marin. Mrs. Ada Decker, accompanist.

The girls, with Miss Mildred Nunn Perry as coach, have organized a basketball team. Miss Neoval Ferguson was elected captain.

Mr. W. G. Sullenger, coach for the boys, has organized the boys' team. Carlton Howard was elected captain. The boys have new suits. They are practicing hard and are looking forward to a good season.

The senior class has organized and the following officers were elected: Elizabeth Manus, president; Carlton Howard, vice-president; Neoval Ferguson, secretary; and Robert Dycus treasurer.

A musical program was given on Wednesday night, Sept. 23. The entertainment was furnished by Mr. Marvin Rideout, of Evansville, Miss Mildred Nunn Perry, Miss Lucille Thompson, Mrs. T. E. Campbell, Mrs. G. M. Graves, Mrs. Ada Tucker and Miss Fay Tucker.

Oct. 1931 – Jackson School

We are well pleased with the record made by our town ball team at the divisional fair held at Frances on Oct. 2. First we defeated Owen School in a 22 to 2 score game.

Next we played Fairview in a tight game, which ended with seven scores for Jackson and five for Fairview. William Tabor of the Jackson team scored highest in this game.

The boys on our team are Eugene Williamson, Nathaniel McCree, Bartley Winters, William Tabor, Clifton Winters, Forrest Beavers and Linard Tabor.

Fun and exciting times of school days of long ago.

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

CITY OF MARION

The following tax bills for the year 2024, being unpaid, I will offer for sale on April 1, 2025 at 1 p.m to the highest bidder for cash. The following delinquent tax claims upon which a real assessment appears (the amount includes penalty, interest and advertising cost).

Tax Year Range 2024 To 2024 Calculated As Of 03/03/2025

Bill No.	Account Name	Unpaid Tax
11.....	ABEGGLEN RANDALL L & DEBORAH L	\$249.54
20.....	ADAMSON KENNETH & MELISSA.....	\$57.36
43.....	ANDERSON MICHAEL	\$286.82
71.....	BARNES LEONARD	\$5.74
99.....	BELT BOBBY L.....	\$129.07
145.....	BLAZINA JOSEPH	\$43.03
165.....	BRADFORD CHARLES	\$15.78
171.....	BRONOSKY TERRI	\$129.07
188.....	BURKE DUANE SCOTT & INA YVONNE.....	\$51.63
189.....	BUSH CHARITY DAWN	\$186.43
200.....	CALE PHILLIP	\$28.69
232.....	CLEARWATER SUSAN	\$143.42
235.....	CLIFFORD BRIAN	\$24.39
237.....	COFFER STORES INC.	\$95.52
241.....	COFFER STORES INC.	\$43.05
242.....	COFFER STORES INC.	\$848.57
264.....	CONNER MELBURN & MELISSA	\$100.39
265.....	CONYER DAVID S & CATHERINE.....	\$135.52
274.....	COOPER PEGGY DEMOSS	\$83.18
299.....	CRAYNE ROY & MELISSA	\$203.65
301.....	CRIDER KENNETH O	\$358.53
340.....	CRUCE HERBERT EST	\$3.45
344.....	CURNEL RICKY EST	\$149.15
352.....	DAVIDSON BARRY	\$33.00
374.....	DICKEY BRADLEY	\$21.52
378.....	DICKEY GORDON	\$136.67
381.....	DILLINGHAM MATTHEW	\$11.47
383.....	DILLINGHAM MATTHEW	\$11.47
404.....	DOWNES KENNETH WAYNE &	\$153.46
473.....	FETTEROLF THADDEUS THOMAS JOSEPH.....	\$114.73
510.....	FOX SHIRLEY	\$10.47
538.....	GERHARDT CRAIG	\$11.47
552.....	GIPSON SHELBY EST	\$103.26
553.....	GIPSON TAMARA ANN	\$100.39
568.....	GRAYHAWK LEASING LLC	\$10.33
575.....	GREGORY INC	\$80.02
591.....	GUGENHEIM INC.	\$5.02
597.....	HACKNEY EDDIE	\$8.61
605.....	HAKE KATRINA & MICHAEL	\$149.15
623.....	HARDESTY KENNETH JR	\$36.42
637.....	HATHAWAY KEVIN BRUCE	\$15.78
655.....	HEALTHQUEST WELLNESS CENTER PS	\$17.77
670.....	HENRY CECIL	\$160.62
677.....	HERRIN JODY & JULIE	\$178.85
714.....	HOLLOMAN THOMAS LESTER & ALTHEA J	\$28.69
719.....	HOMETOWN FOODS.....	\$82.51
732.....	HUGHES DOUG & MILLER KELSEY	\$10.05
734.....	HUGHES LACY EST	\$7.17
736.....	HUGHES RONALD D	\$11.47
773.....	JACKSON ALVIE G	\$28.69
774.....	JACKSON RUTH ESTATE	\$7.17
814.....	JOHNSON JAMES EST.....	\$12.92
823.....	JOHNSTON LISA DIANNE.....	\$17.21
825.....	JONES BRAD LEE	\$2.87
843.....	KEMPER JAMES & LINDSEY	\$103.26
880.....	LANHAM ROBBIE	\$28.69
884.....	LARUE JAMES D & SHARON	\$236.63
898.....	LINDER TAKEKO	\$100.39
903.....	LIZAK JOHN & BETTY L	\$82.17
908.....	LONG HAILEY LEANN.....	\$86.05
918.....	LYNCH DAVID N	\$15.21
927.....	MANESS MICHAEL	\$22.95
956.....	MARTIN DAVID A & COURTNEY M	\$14.34
959.....	MASON LISA M	\$8.61
966.....	MCCAIN J C	\$21.52
968.....	MCCLURE TROY EST	\$14.34
969.....	MCDANIEL BELINDA D	\$71.70
984.....	MCGEE WAYNE P	\$14.34
990.....	MCKINNEY DUSTIN & MCKINNEY JUDITH	\$94.08
993.....	MCKINNEY TYLER & KAITLYN.....	\$83.18
1010.....	MILLER JOANNIE MARIE	\$2.59
1031.....	MORRIS CHAD & STACIE	\$129.07
1048.....	MOXLEY LYDAWN.....	\$20.08
1051.....	MURRAY BRADLEY	\$149.15
1060.....	NELSON ANGELA DON	\$14.34
1123.....	PEMBERTON JESSICA & ANDREW	\$28.69
1166.....	POTTER WENDY & JOHN P	\$130.51
1167.....	PRECISION PLUMBING & SEPTIC INC.....	\$71.70
1174.....	PRYOR KENNETH R JR	\$57.36
1182.....	READER LACEY	\$45.89
1183.....	READER LACEY 1/2 & RENNER RUSTY 1/2.....	\$11.47
1184.....	READER LACEY 1/2 & RENNER RUSTY 1/2.....	\$2.87
1204.....	RILEY BARBARA	\$10.05
1224.....	ROBERTS DARLENE	\$17.21
1234.....	ROBERTSON MICHAEL	\$5.74
1235.....	ROBINSON BETTY J.....	\$2.87
1236.....	ROBISON AUSTIN	\$278.22
1258.....	RUSHING JAMES M & KELLY	\$100.39
1291.....	RUSSELL AUSTIN SHANE.....	\$220.85
1261.....	SHIELDS HAZEL OR.....	\$5.16
1314.....	SISCO CHRISTOPHER.....	\$80.31
1319.....	SMITH DEVIN	\$5.74
1321.....	SMITH JAMES RAY & DEVIN	\$91.49
1322.....	SMITH JEFFERY	\$4.31
1333.....	SMOCK MARVIN DAVID	\$57.36
1344.....	STARWAT MICHELLE	\$83.18
1349.....	STEPHENS BONNIE	\$12.92
1350.....	STEPHENS BONNIE	\$12.92
1351.....	STEPHENS BONNIE	\$12.92
1352.....	STEPHENS BONNIE	\$11.47
1361.....	STOLL CORI LYNAE	\$100.39
1374.....	SUN INDUSTRIES INC	\$157.76
1390.....	TABOR ALMA A	\$64.54
1391.....	TABOR ALMA A	\$1.44
1401.....	TAX EASE LIEN SERVICING LLC.....	\$14.34
1457.....	TUCKER DAVID D.....	\$106.12
1460.....	TURNER JOE D	\$71.70
1461.....	TYRIE SHELLEY S	\$97.23
1467.....	UNKNOWN OWNER	\$5.74
1469.....	US BANK	\$11.47
1475.....	WALKER CHAD	\$129.07
1480.....	WALKER ROCKY	\$8.61
1489.....	WATSON CHARLES.....	\$187.88
1496.....	WATSON MARY ELIZABETH	\$11.47
1507.....	WESMOLAN JENNIFER	\$50.20
1514.....	WESTDALE ASSOCIATES	\$3,147.59
1525.....	WHEELER ROBERT MICHAEL DBA	\$0.16
1550.....	WILLIAMS DAVID.....	\$34.42

DID YOU KNOW?

Every month 80% of Kentucky adults read local print or digital newspapers.



We Are Proud To Be
Your Local Newspaper
KPA KENTUCKY PRESS ASSOCIATION
The Crittenden Press
Source: The Kentucky State Study 2023: Conducted by Coda Ventures, Base: Total adults, multiple responses



ALL-REGION TEAM



Boone Hodge Evans
ALL-REGION TOURNAMENT TEAM

BASKETBALL
2nd Region Tournaments

GIRLS
At Christian County
Opening Round Results
Henderson Co. 77, Lyon County 40
Hopkins Central 79 Hopkinsville 54
Christian Co. 70 Madisonville 51
Crittenden Co. 46, Union County 39
Semifinal Results
Henderson 60, Hopkins Central 37
Crittenden Co. 63, Christian Co. 49
Championship Result
Henderson Co. 66, Crittenden Co. 31
BOYS
At Madisonville
Opening Round Results
Madisonville 80, Livingston Central 62
Union County 62, Christian County 45
Henderson Co. 79, Hopkinsville 58
Lyon County 87, Dawson Springs 69
Tuesday's Semifinals
Madisonville vs Union County
Henderson Co., vs Lyon County
Tuesday, March 18
Championship, 7pm

Guess in NAIA nationals

Crittenden County High School graduate Taylor Guess and her Lindsey Wilson women's basketball team has qualified to play in the NAIA National Tournament this week. The team will open play Friday against William Carey University (Miss.) in New Orleans. Guess, CCHS's all-time leading scorer, leads Lindsey Wilson in scoring this season with a 15.3 average. She also averages five rebounds. Lindsey Wilson lost by two points to Freed Hardeman (Tenn.) last week in the Mid-South Conference Tournament quarterfinal round.

FOOTBALL
Mahnke to play in college

Crittenden County senior Brayden Mahnke has committed to play sprint football at Bellarmine University in Louisville. Mahnke, a linebacker, was the Rockets' second leading tackler in 2024 with 61 stops. He also rushed for 279 yards, had 69 yards receiving and recovered two fumbles.



MISCELLANEOUS
CCHS receives ref award

Crittenden County Athletic Director Madison Champion recently accepted the Second Region Basketball Officials Association award for hospitality. The annual award is given to schools in the region that provide extraordinary respect and assistance to referees. Association representative Alfred "Boogie" Williams made the presentation during the Second Region Tournament last week.

OUTDOORS
Hunting Seasons

Here are some of the most common hunting opportunities currently in season or coming up:
Coyote Night (lights) Dec. 1 - March 31
Goose Consersvation Feb. 16 - March 31
Wild Turkey Youth April 5-6
Wild Turkey April 12 - May 4
Bullfrog May 16 - Oct. 31
Squirrel May 17 - June 15
Coyote Year Round
Ground hog Year Round

Girls reach chain's end in region championship

STAFF REPORT
Like a dog straining against the end of its chain, Crittenden County had little fight left by the third quarter of Saturday's Second Region championship game at Hopkinsville.

The momentum had shifted long before Lady Rocket junior Anna Boone left the game temporarily with an ankle injury six minutes into the second half. By then, Crittenden's leading scorer for the past two seasons had accounted for more than half of her team's 24 points. But it wasn't nearly enough, as Henderson County – a school with four times the enrollment of Crittenden's 429 – showed no mercy in a dominant 66-31 victory.

Crittenden County, appearing in the regional final for just the fourth time in program history, had defied the odds to get there. But taking down 22-time tournament champion Henderson County proved an insurmountable task. Crittenden's bark was without ample bite against a team that won its three regional tournament games by an average of 32 points each.

In dynastic fashion, the Lady Colonels have now captured 19 of the last 21 regional crowns. Familiarity with the hardware didn't appear to have changed their intensity from the jump or when they hoisted the trophy and cut down the nets.

Minutes after tweaking her ankle, Boone was back on the floor for a ceremonial last lap, but by then her Lady Rockets had already fallen 25 points behind – five more than when she first exited. Shortly after, both coaches emptied their benches, a clear sign that the competitive portion of the game was over.

Lady Rocket coach Shannon Hodge had exhausted every option by then. It began slipping away in the second half not before. Henderson County had reeled off runs that came in waves. What started as a 12-12 tie late in the first period quickly unraveled with a 7-0 Henderson scoring run, followed by an 8-0 spurt.

After 33 years leading Crittenden County, Coach Shannon Hodge likely knew her team's press – so effective in getting them to the title game – was a long shot. But she deployed it anyway, hoping for a spark. It was the last straw, but Henderson remained unfazed.

The Lady Colonels used their defensive quickness to cut off driving lanes, contest every Crittenden County shot and neutralize the Lady Rockets' perimeter game. With no breathing room and little chance to close the gap, Crittenden's championship hopes faded long before the final buzzer.

"We will be back next year," said junior Elliot Evans, one of three Lady Rockets named to the all-region team. "Four of our five starters are juniors. We're going to work harder over the summer and be right back here next year. We want to go to Rupp."

After winning their seventh straight regional title, Henderson County (27-5) will play First Region champion Marshall County in the opening round of the Sweet Sixteen next week at Rupp Arena. Crittenden's season ends with a 23-8 record. It has now won more than 20 games in five seasons, and this year's starters have been part of three of those. They won 19 last year. Had it not been for February snow-outs, this year's Lady Rockets would have challenged the program's winningest season of 25-8 in 2016.

Semifinal win over Christian

On a stage that should've, could've, would've belonged to Christian County, Lady Rocket junior Anna Boone and her posse scorched the Lady Colonels 63-49 in Friday's Second Region semifinal at



Anna Boone drives against Christian County's NeVaeh Day (at top) in the semifinal win over Christian County. Day was the regional player of the year this season and Boone held that title last year. Directly above, Jordyn Hodge works to the basket during the Lady Rockets' loss to Henderson County.

Lyle Dunbar Gym in Hopkinsville.

Christian, looking for its first championship game berth since Crittenden County beat the Lady Colonels for the regional title in 2011, was taken to the woodshed by the Lady Rockets, who built as much as a 30-point lead in the second half en route to securing their second regional championship appearance in three years.

Boone dominated the first half, displaying wizardry off the bounce and from downtown. She was unstoppable, stymieing the homesteading Lady Colonels, who are typically as territorial as a pit bull on their own floor.

"I knew I had to get in there and score my points," said Boone, who has averaged just under 15 points per game this season and scored 24 against Christian. "Once we started scoring, our defense just clicked."

While Boone was lighting it up, the rims were mighty unforgiving to Christian County, which misfired like an AK-47 with a 30-round clip full of blanks – shot after shot, but none hitting the target. The Lady Colonels collected rebound after rebound, but seldom found the net.

Meanwhile, Boone was raking. She scored 19 in the first half to lift Crittenden to a 37-19 lead at the break. Crittenden had fallen behind 7-2 early but outscored Christian 17-4 the rest of the first quarter.

Even when Crittenden's offense cooled slightly in the third period, Christian kept losing ground while its offense was

as unsuccessful as a lottery ticket. The Lady Rockets convincingly frustrated their hosts, forcing rushed shots, off-balance prayers, and frequent misses around the basket on attempts the Lady Colonels typically make.

Although Crittenden stuck to a six-player rotation before unloading the bench late, it was clear that Coach Shannon Hodge's team had met the physical challenge she posed to them heading into the contest against a team known for its ruggedness.

"We knew it was going to be a war inside for rebounds," Hodge said. "We knew that if we could just challenge their shots, then they wouldn't be as comfortable on those first shots. They got a lot of offensive rebounds, but we got enough, especially early, to keep them from scoring a lot of points in that first half."

Crittenden County 12 18 25 31
Henderson County 14 31 19 66
CRITTENDEN – Boone 15, Evans 2, Hodge 7, Federico 4, Stewart, Holeman 3, Berry, Champion, Grau, Hunt, Rich, Mathews. 3-pointers 2 (Boone, Hodge). FT 11-16.
HENDERSON - Gish 11, Gardner 6, Kemp 3, Rideout 8, Cansler 3, Green 21, Gibson 14. 3-pointers 8 (Gish 3, Gibson 2, Green 2, Cansler). FT 12-18

Crittenden County 19 37 57 63
Christian County 11 19 31 49
CRITTENDEN – Boone 24, Evans 2, Hodge 12, Federico 9, Rushing 12, Stewart 4, Holeman, Berry, Champion, Hunt. 3-pointers 4 (Boone 3, Hodge). FT 16-26.
CHRISTIAN – Northington 4, Bagwell 14, Day 10, Hobson 4, McGee 3, Daniel 9, Bell 2, Bradley 3. 3-pointers 2 (Daniel, Bagwell). FT 11-21.

Crittenden County Baseball | Softball

ROCKETS BASEBALL

March 18 at Christian Fellowship
March 20 Union County
March 21 Heritage Christian
March 22 Fort Campbell
March 22 John Hardin
March 25 Livingston Central
March 27 at Livingston Central
March 28 at Hopkins County Central
March 29 at Webster County
March 29 Todd Central at Webster
Apr 1 Hardin County, Ill.
Apr 2 at Bardstown (DH)
Apr 8-11 All A Classic (bye)
Apr 11 Ballard Memorial
Apr 15 Trigg County
Apr 17 at Trigg County
Apr 22 at Caldwell County
Apr 25 Christian Fellowship
Apr 26 at Madisonville
Apr 28 Hopkins County Central
Apr 29 at Union County
May 3 at Mayfield
May 5 Lyon County
May 6 at Lyon County
May 9 at Heritage Christian
May 10 at Ballard Memorial
May 10 vs Community Christian at Ballard
May 13 Webster County
May 15 at Fort Campbell
May 16 Caldwell County
May 17 Madisonville
May 19-20 District Tournament

LADY ROCKETS SOFTBALL

March 17 at Hopkins County Central
March 20 at Mayfield
March 21 at Ballard Memorial
March 24 Murray
March 27 Marshall County
March 28 at Trigg County
Apr 4 Stewart Co. Tn., at Clarksville
Apr 4 Beech, Tn., at Clarksville
Apr 5 Rossville, Tn., at Clarksville
Apr 5 TBA at Clarksville
Apr 7 at Livingston Central, All A
Apr 10 at Henderson County
Apr 14 Caldwell County
Apr 15 at Lyon County
Apr 17 Trigg County
Apr 18 at Paducah Tilghman
Apr 18 at Graves County
Apr 21 at Caldwell County
Apr 22 Livingston Central
Apr 24 at Christian County
Apr 26 Webster County
Apr 26 Carlisle County
Apr 29 Lyon County
May 1 at Livingston Central
May 2 Ballard Memorial
May 3 Calloway County
May 5 Christian County
May 8 Union County
May 9 at Murray
May 10 Madisonville-North Hopkins
May 13 at Webster County
May 15 at Union County
May 16 Hopkins County Central
May 17 at Calloway County



Rocket pitcher Hudson Stokes



CCHS pitcher Benna Kemmer



AGRICULTURE: Together We Grow

NATIONAL AG DAY — Tuesday, March 18, 2025

American agriculture provides food, fiber and renewable resources for a growing world.

With a population of 8 billion people (and counting), America’s farmers are more important now than ever before.

The Agriculture Council of America gratefully recognizes the essential value of farmers and America’s farm families. On National Ag Day, we invite everyone to unite and celebrate the role that agriculture plays in all our lives.

Please join us on March 18, 2025 — along with producers, agricultural associations, corporations, universities, government agencies and countless others — to raise our voices in celebration of agriculture...because Together, We Grow.

Learn more at agday.org

For sponsorship opportunities, contact jennyp@nama.org.

Ag Tag programs benefit communities

Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell is making rounds across the state as he visits with FFA members, 4-H members, and Kentucky County Clerks spreading the word about the Ag Tag Program.

“Today’s youth are the future for tomorrow’s agriculture,” Commissioner Shell said. “For years, people renewing their farm license plates have been given the opportunity to strengthen that future by donating to the Ag Tag fund. Through the years, millions have been donated, and our youth are the ones benefiting.”

As he visits 4-H and FFA members at each county stop, Shell goes into detail about the benefits both programs receive from the funds generated by the donations to the Ag Tag program.

Every year, when owners renew their farm license plates, or “ag tags,” which depict the Kentucky Department of Agriculture’s Kentucky Proud logo, along with the 4-H and FFA emblems, they can make a \$10 donation. That money goes into a fund divided equally among Kentucky 4-H, Kentucky FFA,

and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) to support Kentucky’s agriculture youth and other organizations and programs benefiting Kentucky’s farm families.

Last year, donations to the Ag Tag program reached a record high of \$931,201.81. From that total, each group received \$310,400.60 to invest back into their communities for youth development and promotional programs.

KDA uses its share of the Ag Tag funds for various programs, such as the Ag Athlete of the Year scholarships, the Kentucky Leopold Conservation Award, Kentucky Women in Agriculture, and Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom.

Half of the 4-H and FFA donations are returned to local councils and chapters, allowing leaders in those contributing communities to use the funds to cover the cost of 4-H and FFA camps and other leadership programs for youth. In the past, County 4-H councils have used Ag Tag dollars to provide 4-H camp scholarships and travel for life-changing, educational

experiences to enable local 4-H youth to grow as leaders and engaged citizens. FFA chapters were free to use the money to meet the greatest needs in their community, such as FFA jackets for students in need or helping cover travel costs to leadership events.

“FFA and 4-H are two of the leading youth organizations in Kentucky and the nation. While they work to prepare youth to take on the challenges agriculture faces, KDA works every day to promote Kentucky’s farmers,” Commissioner Shell said. “This year’s Ag Tag campaign theme is ‘Bluegrass Beginnings, Boundless Futures,’ reflecting the true connection between the Commonwealth and agriculture. Funding from your voluntary donations helps all three organizations fulfill our mission to sustain Kentucky agriculture for future generations.”

In the weeks to come, Commissioner Shell invites those who are stopping by their county clerk’s office to renew their “Ag Tags,” to also make the \$10 donation.



Growing Our FUTURE



It only cost **\$10** to make a difference in supporting Kentucky 4-H, Kentucky FFA, and Kentucky Proud. Please make the **\$10 donation** when renewing your **Ag Tag !!**



Farmers made up **4.3%** of America's labor force in early 1970s

Today they make up **1.3%**

Farmers made up 4.3% of America's labor force in the early 1970s compared with 1.3% today. #AgDay25

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Ryegrass field tour will be March 27

Farmers and agriculture professionals will have an opportunity to learn about controlling Italian ryegrass at a field tour scheduled for Thursday, March 27 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Participants should meet at the Caldwell County Extension office for sign-in at 8:30 a.m., before traveling in a caravan to the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center (UKREC) for plot tours. Presented by Dr. Travis Legleiter, UK Extension Associate Professor of Weed Science, the tour will cover best practices for controlling Italian ryegrass in fall and spring before corn and soybean planting. Educational credits are available, including 3 CEUs in Integrated

Pest Management (IPM) for Certified Crop Advisers and 3 CEUs for Kentucky Applicator Category 1A (Ag Plant).

For more information, call (859) 562-2569. Registration is available online via QR code or link.



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CRITTENDEN COUNTY TRAFFIC ACCIDENT TRENDS OVER 20 YEARS																				
TYPE OF COLLISION	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
With Injury	83	80	68	60	63	56	77	47	52	60	72	70	60	49	53	39	29	44	32	31
With Fatality	4	3	2	5	2	1	4	2	2	2	3	3	1	4	3	2	3	2	0	3
WITH Property Damage	145	117	126	134	130	150	148	105	116	120	122	179	160	159	137	133	85	97	97	80
Total Persons Injured	111	119	101	94	104	71	104	67	79	79	113	90	82	73	76	59	40	60	51	50
Total Persons Killed	4	3	4	5	2	1	5	2	2	2	4	3	1	4	3	2	3	2	0	5

Crashes down, fatalities rise from 2022 to '23

STAFF REPORT

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet recently released its annual Kentucky Traffic Collision Facts report for 2023, revealing mixed results for five western Kentucky counties.

While total traffic collisions decreased across Crittenden, Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon and Union counties, fatal crashes increased in some areas.

Crittenden and Caldwell counties experienced the most troubling trends, with Crittenden reporting five fatalities after having none the previous year. Caldwell County saw fatal crashes triple from two to six from 2022 to 2023.

The overall decline in collisions appears to be positive news, but the rise in fatalities in some counties is concerning.

Across the five-county region, alcohol-related crashes increased in most areas with Crittenden County showing the most dramatic rise from four to nine incidents from 2022 to 2023.

Drug-related crashes presented a mixed picture with substantial increases in Lyon County, but decreases in Union and Livingston counties.

Lyon County showed the largest overall improvement in total collisions, dropping from 310 to 259 over the two-year period, a 16.5% reduction while also reducing fatalities from four to two.

Union County reported increased injury accidents despite fewer total collisions with injuries rising from 83 to 90.

The full report contains detailed data on traffic patterns, contributing factors and safety initiatives planned for the future.

Crittenden County Trends 2022-2023

- 114 total collisions, down from 129 in 2022.
- 3 fatal crashes, up from none.
- 31 injury accidents, slightly down from 32.
- 80 property damage crashes
- 5 fatalities, up from none.
- 50 injuries, down from 51.
- 9 alcohol-related crashes, up from 4.

Caldwell County Trends 2022-2023

- 2 drug-related crashes, up from none.
- 286 total collisions, down from 327 in 2022.
- 6 fatal crashes, up from 2.
- 65 injury accidents, down from 72.
- 215 property damage crashes
- 6 fatalities, up from 2.
- 85 injuries, down from 108.
- 10 alcohol-related crashes, up from 4.
- 6 drug-related crashes, up from 5.

Livingston County Trends 2022-2023

- 136 total collisions, down from 154 in 2022.
- 1 fatal crash, down from 4.
- 34 injury accidents, same as previous year.
- 101 property damage crashes
- 1 fatality, down from 4.
- 41 injuries, down from 61.
- 8 alcohol-related crashes, up from 6.
- 0 drug-related crashes, down from 1.

Lyon County

- 259 total collisions, down from 310 in 2022.
- 2 fatal crashes, down from 3.

Union County Trends 2022-2023

- 220 total collisions, down from 233.
- 2 fatal crashes, down from 3.
- 63 injury accidents, up from 55.
- 155 property damage crashes
- 2 fatalities, down from 3.
- 90 injuries, up from 83.
- 6 alcohol-related crashes, up from 5.
- 3 drug-related crashes, down from 6.

Key Takeaways

- Crittenden and Caldwell counties saw an increase in fatal crashes.
- Lyon, Livingston and Union counties had a drop in total crashes.
- Alcohol-related crashes rose in most counties.
- Drug-related crashes increased in Crittenden, Caldwell and Lyon counties but dropped in Union and Livingston.

WATER

Continued from page 1

also provided crucial medical services during their visit.

A team of 20 volunteers traveled from Jan. 22 to Feb. 5, partnering with Agape Church in Kenya to organize a five-day medical clinic. The clinic, held inside the newly built church, was made possible through the efforts of Parents Foundations for Hope, a nonprofit based in Alabama. The initiative brought bright, skilled doctors to the area, offering care to more than 2,800 people who otherwise have limited access to medical treatment.


The outreach proved not only to be a time of healing but also one of spiritual renewal. Through their efforts, 827 individuals made a commitment to faith.


Life in Christ Church is part of a growing global network of 141 churches working to spread their mission beyond their home communities.



Pictured are (front from left) Whitney Jepsen, Krissie Hodge, Faith Shuecraft, Amanda Bridges, Becky Johnson, Whitley Spillman, AJ Tabor, (back) Braden Treglow, Trey Hodge, Randy Treglow, Craig Johnson and Tanner Tabor. In photograph on front page are missionary participants (front) Rashelle Wydotis, Debbie West, Amber Foster, Debbie Duncan, Jessica Walker, (back) Matt Mullinex, Tim West, Lenny Wydotis, Jeff Hughes, Brian Jones and Leslie Jones.

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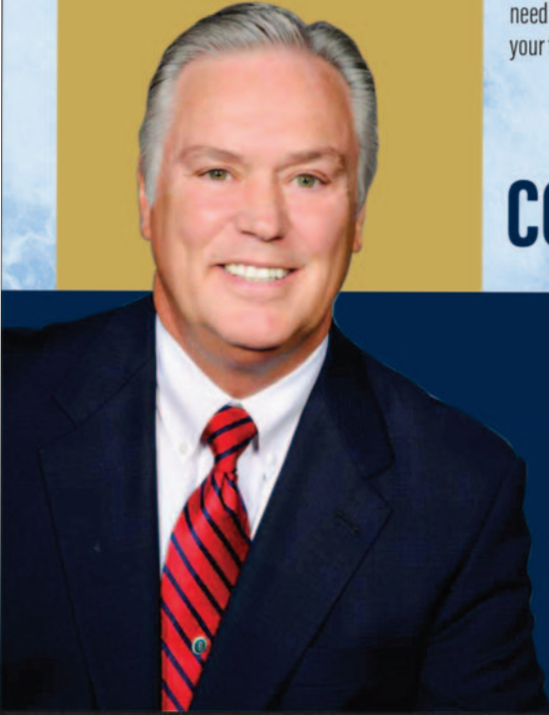
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