



The Crittenden Press

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THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025

Track Results, Spring Sports « Page 8

24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS / THE-PRESS.COM

AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

TWO DOLLARS

Dam 50 bridge over Crooked Cr. closing until August 15

A section of KY 387, also known as Dam 50 Road, will close next week for construction of a new Crooked Creek Bridge, says Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. The road will shut down at mile point 0.77 – about three-quarters of a mile east of KY 91 – cutting off access to KY 91 for most residents along a 3-mile stretch of KY 387 nearest Dam 50 (Riverview Park). The closure is set to begin at 8 a.m. Monday, March 31. There will be no marked detour. Motorists, including local farmers and visitors to Riverview Park campground and boat ramp, will need to use Cotton Patch Road and KY 654 as an alternate route. The project, awarded in January 2024, was delayed while awaiting delivery of steel for the bridge substructure. Construction is expected to take about 120 working days. Jim Smith Contracting of Grand Rivers is the prime contractor. Completion is slated for around Aug. 15.

US 60 West closing, too

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will close a section of US 60 between Salem and Marion starting at 7 a.m. Tuesday, April 1. The closure, scheduled to coincide with Crittenden County Schools' spring break, will be between KY 855 and KY 297 in the New Salem area. Crews will remove and replace a concrete box culvert at the 1.13-mile marker that carries a tributary of Dry Fork Creek beneath the highway. Work is expected to be completed by 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 2, weather permitting.



Hayride rolls Saturday

The semi-annual Old Kentucky Hayride is Saturday night at Fohs Hall. Call 270-704-2591 for tickets or more information. Concessions will be available.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Public Library Board will meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, March 27 at the library.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 6 p.m., Monday, April 7 at the county office complex to discuss possible creation of a new taxing district.



Family Marks 3 Quarters of a Century Here

Pictured (above from left) is the Johnson Furniture and Appliance crew Jim Johnson, owner; Patti Johson Merrill, marketing and sales; Korey Mayes, service technician; Amy Johnson, owner; Elijah Davis, installation and delivery; Julia Davidson, warranty and sales; Jimmy Newland, installation and delivery; Reed Minton, installation and delivery; Bobby Belt, buyer and sales manager; and Alex Kirby, service and delivery crew manager. At right are second generation owners Jim and Amy Johnson.



Celebration centers on customer appreciation

STAFF REPORT

One of Marion's oldest businesses is celebrating a milestone this spring as Johnson's Furniture and Appliances marks 75 years of service. The longtime family-run business, which began in 1950, has grown and evolved while remaining a cornerstone of the community.

The company was originally founded when Nolan and Mary Margaret Rohrer

and James and Margaret Johnson purchased the GE store from Marion Machine Works. Operating as Rohrer and Johnson Electric Co., the business sold GE appliances and provided electrical contracting. Today, Johnson's Furniture & Appliances holds the distinction of being the oldest GE dealer in Kentucky.

In 1951, after acquiring Delmar Maye's Electric Co., the business moved to

Carlisle St., where Farmers Bank's administrative office is now located. The following year, Rohrer and Johnson expanded again, purchasing the Boyce Belt Locker Plant, Restaurant and Ice Cream Business, operating all three for more than three years on Salem Road.

In 1955, the business was divided, with the Johnsons taking over the appliance and electrical contracting portion, renaming it Johnson

Electric Co., while the Rohrers retained the locker plant and restaurant.

The Johnsons moved their business to 117 North Main Street, selling GE appliances and providing electrical contracting and commercial wiring.

In 1970, the store expanded to accommodate new appliance lines and televisions. The addition of a full

See 75 YEARS/page 3

Special meeting planned for April to discuss possible new E-911 tax

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County leaders are considering a new taxing method to more fairly and sustainably fund the county's E-911 dispatch service, potentially replacing the existing \$36 annual dwelling fee.

The dwelling fee, adopted in 2021 after extensive deliberation, is attached to property tax bills but is not classified as a statutory tax. As a re-

sult, it does not apply uniformly across the county's roughly 9,000 parcels. That has led to ongoing concerns about the fairness and adequacy of the funding method.

At last week's regular fiscal court meeting, an E-911 committee recommended raising the fee from \$36 to \$50 per year – an increase of \$1.17 per

See E-911/page 3



Local author Regina Merrick has circled back to Crittenden County Public Library for a second term as its librarian and she's already rolling out programs with new ideas.

Riverview Park rates going up this month

STAFF REPORT

Beginning immediately, visitors to Riverview Park will see higher costs for camping and reservation fees following a set of rate adjustments approved last week by Crittenden County Fiscal Court, which owns and operates the facility on the Ohio River.

Judge-Executive Perry Newcom told magistrates that the park's oversight committee met earlier this month and deter-

See FEES/page 3

Wheels of change bring Merrick back to CCPL

BY KAYLA MAXFIELD
PRESS REPORTER

The wheels of change have come full circle for Regina Merrick, who has been named Crittenden County Public Library (CCPL) director for the second time.

Merrick returns to the post she previously held from 2004 to 2017. For the last few months she had been serving as interim director, but library trustees recently approved making her role more permanent.

Merrick's return brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the position.

"I took a few years off to do some other things," Merrick said.

A lifelong western Kentucky resident, Merrick has dedicated much of her career to fostering a love for reading and literature. In addition to her work in libraries, she is an accomplished author of contemporary romance

See LIBRARY/page 10

Bleuer

Later in life, Bev enjoyed volunteering at Crittenden County Elementary School where the children looked forward to seeing "Ms. Bev," likely because of the pink mints she always had handy. She delighted in sharing the stories of the students whose lives she touched. She also became a pro Bingo player, often spending her winnings on gifts for her great-grandchildren. Bev shared her love for God with all and especially enjoyed shar-

Paid obituary

Shinall

Survivors include her husband, Ronald Garrett Shinall, son, Ronald

Hicks

Surviving are three daughters, Kimberly (T.J.) Tabor of Burna, Lydawn (John) Moxley of Marion and Hazel (Brad) Garrett of Sturgis; seven grandchildren, Grace, Cory, Heather, Kendra, Trenton, Danielle and Ethan; 18 great-grandchildren, a brother, Jerry Hick; and several nieces

Shelton

Gilbert Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Re-

Officials say the fires support healthy ecosystems.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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HAPPY DOCTORS DAY - MARCH 30

 <p>William Barnes, MD</p>	 <p>Ghassan Yazigi, MD</p>	 <p>William Guyette, MD</p>
 <p>Michael Gavin, MD</p>	 <p>Demetrius Patton, MD</p>	 <p>Jason Patton, MD</p>
 <p>Toihunta Stubbs, MD</p>	 <p>Sanjay Bose, MD</p>	

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Magistrates forgo raise, give it to others

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County magistrates unanimously voted at their regular monthly meeting last week to forgo their recommended 2.9% cost-of-living pay increase for the 2026 fiscal year, but approved the adjustment for the county attorney, assistant county attorney and coroner.

Had they accepted the increase, magistrates' monthly pay would have risen from \$778.50 to \$801.08, bringing their annual salary to \$9,612.96. Magistrate Dave Belt suggested his share could be directed to the conservation district, which testified before the court about its need for additional funding.

The motion to forgo the raise was made by Matt Grimes and seconded by Robert Kirby. It passed unanimously.

The court approved the 2.9% increase for County Attorney Bart Frazer, whose salary will rise from \$1,147.68 to \$1,180.96 per month, or \$14,171.52 annually. Assistant County Attorney Cobie Evans' pay will increase from \$203.71 to \$209.62 per month, totaling \$2,515.44 per year.

Coroner Brad Gilbert's salary will increase from \$814.85 to \$838.48 monthly, bringing his annual earnings to \$10,061.76. Deputy Coroner Keith Gilbert's monthly pay will rise from \$407.43 to \$419.25, totaling \$5,031 per year.

The measure to approve the raises passed unanimously.

Conservation District request

In other business, Crittenden County Conservation District is requesting additional funding in the upcoming county budget, which begins July 1, citing a significant economic impact and the need for

expanded services.

During a presentation to the Crittenden County Fiscal Court, Conservation District Chairman Larry Duvall said last year's \$739,375 budget largely consisted of pass-through funds for landowners, with only \$40,000 retained for the district's operations. He emphasized that for every dollar allocated by the county, the district secured \$24 for local farmers and landowners, marking their highest return to date.

Duvall highlighted past successes, including efforts to reduce Atrazine contamination in the Lake George watershed, which once posed a risk of shutting down the water plant. By compensating landowners for switching to alternative chemicals, the district helped bring contamination levels from unsafe to virtually undetectable.

The district also administers Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQUIP) funds to assist farmers with erosion control, livestock water sources, and other conservation efforts in programs such as the Conservation Stewardship and County Ag Investment programs. However, Duvall pointed out that the district ranks 113th out of 118 reporting conservation districts in Kentucky in terms of funding. Compared to surrounding counties, Crittenden lags behind Livingston County. All other border counties rank well ahead of Crittenden, which receives \$30,000 from the fiscal court each year to supplement its budget. Some districts in other counties are funded by a special taxing district.

Duvall requested additional

funding to increase administrative support, but did not stipulate a precise figure. Currently, the district's administrative secretary, Cindy Jenkins, works one day per week and sometimes on Saturdays, but there are hopes to expand her role to three days per week. She plays a key role in grant writing for landowners, while conservation district employee Bob Guess writes grants and oversees site visits to ensure projects meet specifications.

Fiscal court members did not commit to additional funding but acknowledged the district's impact. Judge-Executive Perry Newcom noted that budget preparations are ongoing and that the court will evaluate the request. Officials also recognized the district's contributions, with a recent FEMA visit praising the cleanliness of local waterways.

Nuisances and Solar Farms

Magistrates have agreed to form two committees to evaluate model ordinances addressing solar energy development and community nuisances.

Officials outlined plans to review draft regulations aimed at balancing development with protections for neighboring property owners and the environment.

One committee will study a proposed solar ordinance that would establish setbacks and land-use standards for utility-scale solar farms, which have become increasingly common in the region. The draft includes provisions requiring land reclamation once the site is no longer used for energy production.

Magistrates Dave Belt and

Travis Perryman, County Attorney Bart Frazer, and two citizens yet to be named will serve on the solar ordinance review committee.

Another committee will take a fresh look at a proposed nuisance ordinance intended to address blighted properties, stray animals and unsafe farming practices, including livestock frequently escaping into public roadways.

Magistrates Scott Belt and Matt Grimes were appointed to the committee. Sheriff Evan Head and County Attorney Frazer asked to be among its members, too. A citizen member will be added to the nuisance committee.

A broad nuisance ordinance has been discussed off and on for more than two decades in Crittenden County, but the fiscal court has historically declined to pursue regulations. In the 1990s, the county opted not to join Marion's planning and zoning district, which would have extended regulations up to 5 miles into the county.

County resolute on mail issues

Crittenden County officials are raising concerns over widespread mail delays, citing logistical issues within the U.S. Postal Service's regional sorting system.

During last week's Crittenden County Fiscal Court meeting, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom acknowledged the county's limited ability to address the problem, but emphasized that officials are making efforts to bring attention to the matter.

"We want to show that we are trying to do something even though we really cannot do anything other than to ask that it be looked into," Newcom said.

Newcom noted that U.S. Rep. James Comer has been investigating the issue, holding hearings in Washington with postal officials. He explained that mail, which was previously sorted in Paducah or Evansville, is now processed in Nashville and potentially Louisville or Indianapolis, contributing to significant delays.

"We are finding that when regional service centers did not inform Nashville, Indianapolis or Louisville that the closings were coming, they could not prepare," Newcom said.

The delays have affected residents, businesses and government entities alike. Magistrate Dave Belt expressed frustration over the disruption, saying, "This is why I get my Crittenden Press by email now," because by mail it was sometimes coming weeks late.

Crittenden-Livingston Water District has also been impacted. Belt also pointed out that water bills sent out for both counties took nearly two months to arrive this winter. The USPS initially blamed the issue on postcard stock, Newcom said, but officials argue the real cause is the shift in sorting centers.

City Administrator Diane Ford-Benningfield confirmed that city offices are facing similar challenges. Fredonia has also reported problems with utility bill deliveries.

County officials stressed that local postal workers are not responsible for the delays.

"This is not our local carriers," Newcom said. "This is merely regional sorting and processing issue."

The fiscal court unanimously approved a resolution calling attention to the issue and urging further action to address the delays.

75 YEARS

Continued from page 1

furniture line followed the purchase of Tucker Furniture.

In 1977, Johnson's Furniture & Appliances moved into its current location at 118 North Main Street, the former site of Runyan Buick-Chevrolet Garage.

The business continued to grow, welcoming James and Margaret's son, James Carl Johnson, and his wife, Amy, in 1986. A showroom expansion in 1992 allowed for an increased product display, while the company also modernized operations with a new point-of-sale system and a highly-trained service staff, earning multiple excellence awards from GE Appliances.

The family legacy continued into a third generation when Patti Merrill, daughter of Jim and Amy Johnson, joined the company in 2008. Four years later, the business expanded again, adding a spacious furniture showroom with large display windows, located across from McDonald's.

Johnson's Furniture and Appliances has embraced changes over the decades, adapting to an increasingly digital world. With online shopping, so-



Johnson's Furniture & Appliances continues to be a family tradition. Pictured above are the first two generations who have operated the business. This picture appeared in the newspaper 25 years ago when Johnson's celebrated 50 years. Pictured are (frem left) Amy Johnson, Jim Johnson, James Johnson and Margaret June Johnson.

cial media engagement and an e-commerce website, the company continues to evolve while maintaining its commitment to customer service.

As it looks toward the future, Johnson's sees opportunities for continued growth by expanding its customer base and staying ahead of industry trends. Owners credit their success and longevity to dedicated employees and a commit-

ment to putting customers first, values that have kept the business strong for 75 years.

As part of its 75th Anniversary Celebration during April, Johnson's has devised some clever giveaways that include free gifts for the customer who travels the farthest to buy from the store. From Friday through April 30 every buyer will get a box of hot tamales because Johnson's started in business the

same year hot tamales were first launched. Buyers who leave a Google review will get a tumbler during one segment of the celebration period, customers who react to store's social media can register for a recliner or mattress. A chest freezer will be given to a customer who guesses the number of pens in the freezer and the person who produces the oldest sales receipt from Johnson's will get a free fridge.

FEES

Continued from page 1

mined that based on inflationary pressures on its budget, a cost adjustment was needed to meet financial needs and to bring the fees more into line with other campgrounds around the region.


Newcom said the camping rates have not seen an increase in many years. The committee presented its request to magistrates who approved the new price plan.

Changes include increases for overnight RV camping, reservation fees, credit card processing charges, and cancellation penalties.

Under the new rates, RV camping fees will rise from \$20 to \$30 per night. The reservation fee will increase from \$3 to \$5 per booking, while credit card processing charges will also go up.

Cancellation fees will also see adjustments. If a reservation is canceled with at least 48 hours' notice, the fee will increase from \$15 to \$25. For cancellations made with less than 48 hours' notice, the penalty will rise from \$25 to \$35.

These rate adjustments reflect the park's effort to cover operational costs and maintain facilities for visitors. The changes are expected to take effect soon, with officials encouraging campers to plan accordingly.



FEBRUARY 2025

Activity Report

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

	Feb.	2024 Mo.Avg.
Collisions Investigated	10	7.6
Complaints	41	66.8
Papers Served	37	53.0
Unsuccessful Service Attempts	8	5.5
Total Service Attempts	67	104.1
Transports	8	4.3
Special Detail	89	58.7
Training Hours	28	41.1
Verbal Warning	18	24.4
Courtesy Notice	11	—
Criminal Citation	2	17.7
Officer Assist	16	5.7
Building Checks	50	50.6
Total Manhours	962.50	86.7
Bailiff Court Hours	57.5	86.7
Cases Opened	6	8.0
Felony Arrests	1	8.8
Followup Investigations	7	29.3
Misdemeanor Arrests	1	10
Motorist Assists	6	8.3
DUIs	1	2.5
Traffic Citations	1	14.1
General Policing	164	156
Call for Service	20	22.6
Vehicle Inspections	51	—

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E-911

Continued from page 1

month – in order to meet rising operational costs. Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said the increase is necessary to maintain revenue levels and ensure the dispatch center's continued operation. Unless the recommendation is approved, dispatchers likely would not receive a cost-of-living pay increase this year.

However, county leaders also voiced concern that the current dwelling fee model isn't equitable. Magistrate Matt Grimes noted that only residents who live on their property pay the fee, while out-of-area landowners are exempt.

"This would get the deer hunter property that we don't get now," said Newcom, referring to non-resident property

owners. "It would be easier than the current dwelling fee system."

One alternative under consideration is the creation of a new taxing district, which would apply a uniform rate to all taxable parcels – similar to how the library, health department and Extension services are funded. A taxing district would also allow for homestead exemptions, giving some property owners a break they don't currently receive under the dwelling fee system.

A 3.5-cent property tax on \$100,000 of assessed value would equate to \$35 annually per parcel, which is the same as one dwelling fee now.

County officials say about \$200,000 in revenue is currently needed to sustain 911 operations. The dwelling fee brings in about \$155,000 annually.

There's a catch, how-

ever. A tax cannot be implemented to pay for 911 operations. The county judge and magistrates discussed a plan that would potentially solve two problems. Newcom said the county is also struggling to pay for its ambulance service.

In essence, the county could develop an ambulance tax, which would free up general fund dollars which come from the local occupational tax and currently obligated for the EMS section of the county budget. Those dollars could go toward funding 911 instead and an ambulance tax could fund EMS services, which are under contract right now with ComCare.

Ambulance service funding, which currently is about \$335,000 annually, does not include capital improvements to the EMS fleet. The county has discussed multiple times over the past year

or so that its ambulances are starting to wear out and need to be replaced.

Right now, the county collects about \$500,000 annually through its occupational tax.

While details are still being finalized, county leaders say a broader-based funding model for E-911 would be more equitable and easier to administer in the long run.

Because any new tax would require an ordinance, the measure would need two readings before it could appear on 2025 tax bills, which go out in November.

A special meeting is set for 6 p.m., Monday, April 7 to further explore the proposal and potentially gather public input. Like all fiscal court meetings, it will be open to the public and will be held at Crittenden County Office Complex.

Camping picking up for Riverview Park’s spring, road work will impact it

Riverview Park, formerly known as Dam 50, saw a slight increase in camping activity in February 2025 compared to previous winter months, with 23 RV nights reserved but no tent camping recorded. While visitor numbers remain low due to seasonal conditions, the park continues to offer a well-maintained outdoor space for travelers and the local community.

Revenue for February included \$1,100 from RV site reservations, with no income from tent camping. Additional revenue from fees and taxes brought total deposits for the month to \$1,242.52. However, total expenses amounted to \$2,116.67, resulting in a net loss of \$874.15 for the month. This follows January’s significant loss of \$1,856.02, indicating the continued financial strain of the winter season.

To address ongoing operational costs and improve financial sustainability, Riverview Park is considering rate adjustments. Proposed changes include increasing RV camping fees from \$20 to \$30 per night, raising the reservation fee from \$3 to \$5, and adjusting cancellation fees. These changes, if implemented, will help offset expenses while maintaining the park’s amenities, which include a dock, restrooms, pavilion, and recreational areas.

Tent sites remain available at \$5 per night, and RV sites are currently listed at \$20 per night with full amenities, pending rate adjustments. Reservations can be made online at CrittendenCountyKy.org.

As spring approaches, the park anticipates an increase in visitor activity, and those using the area will need to be aware that highway construction will impact users. Dam 50 Road (KY 387) will shut down at mile point 0.77, about three-quarters of a mile east of KY 91, cutting off the most direct access to Riverview Park. The closure is set to begin at 8 a.m. Monday, March 31. There will be no marked detour. Motorists, including local farmers and visitors to Riverview Park campground and boat ramp, will need to use Cotton Patch Road and KY 654 as an alternate route.

Shelter report for Feb. counts 54 total animals

Crittenden County Animal Shelter has provided its February 2025 intake and discharge summary, highlighting the movement of animals through the facility and financial contributions received.

At the end of February, the shelter reported a headcount of 44 dogs, with an additional 54 in foster care. During the month, 24 new dogs were taken in. The shelter successfully transferred 26 dogs to rescue organizations, while five found new homes through adoption, and four were reclaimed by their owners.

There were no reports of dogs escaping or being unable to be relocated. Additionally, no dogs died due to medical reasons, though one was euthanized.

The shelter also reported financial contributions for the month, totaling \$565. Revenue came from pet adoptions (\$355), dog licenses (\$15), reclaim fees (\$25), and donations (\$170). No sponsorships were reported for February.

Fed holds firm on rates

The Federal Reserve held interest rates steady at 4.25%–4.5% following last week’s meeting, maintaining its stance amid economic uncertainty tied to recent trade tensions. However, the board reaffirmed plans for two rate cuts this year, potentially lowering rates to 3.75%–4.0%.

The Fed also revised its economic outlook for 2025, lowering its GDP growth projection to 1.7% from December’s 2.1% estimate and raising its core in-



flation forecast to 2.8%. Additionally, officials signaled a slower reduction of the central bank’s nearly \$6.8 trillion asset portfolio, much of which was accumulated during past stimulus efforts.

School District will receive \$1.1 million

Crittenden County School District has been awarded the Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy (KYCL) grant, making it one of only 39 districts statewide to receive the funding. The district was notified last week that it has secured the first year of a potential five-year grant, which could total nearly \$1.1 million.

The grant will support literacy instruction, professional development and curriculum resources for all grade levels. Superintendent Tonya Driver credited collaboration among teachers, school representatives, and district staff for securing the funding.

“This grant will significantly impact our efforts to address learning gaps and ensure equitable access to quality literacy instruction,” Driver said. “This funding will empower us to provide personalized support and resources to all students, particularly those who need it most.”

Lyon-Crittenden bridge work will begin soon

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet says work to open KY 295, which has been closed for more than a year at Livingston Creek on the Crittenden–Lyon County Line, will begin in late spring or summer. A contract was let last month and the project was awarded. The replacement project could take months to complete once it begins.

FFA hosting Vendor Fair to kickoff greenhouse

Crittenden County High School’s FFA chapter will host a Vendor Fair to kickoff its greenhouse season from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, April 12. Designed to give individuals a point of sale for their handmade and homemade products, FFA anticipates having several small businesses, including those who sell soap, beef tallow, local honey, arts and crafts and more at the event. Concessions will be provided by the Lions Club. Vendor booths are available.

Gaga Ball coming soon to local park

Construction of a Gaga Ball pit at Marion–Crittenden County Park aims to provide a fun and engaging recreational opportunity for the community, said Kim Vince, who’s helping to organize Scouts who are building the court.

Gaga Ball is a high-energy, fast-paced game that promotes physical activity, teamwork and good sportsmanship among children and adults.

Gaga Ball, a mid-20th century invention, is a dodgeball-style game played in an octagonal pit. Players hit a soft ball with their hands, aiming to eliminate opponents by striking them below the knees. The game emphasizes agility, quick reflexes, and strategy, making it fun and suitable for players of all ages and skill levels, Vince said. Participants would have to provide their own ball once the pit is ready for action.

This project is spearheaded by local Scout Pack 3030’s Arrow of Light den. Arrow of Lights are in their final year of Cub Scouts and will crossover to Scout Troop 30 this fall. One of the required adventures for the den is community service. The boys have encountered and enjoyed Gaga Ball pits at both

Scout camp and 4–H camp and are excited to take on this community service project to provide the game to others in the community, said Vince. The den has four members – Asher Dalton, Caleb Harris, Wil Myers and Russell Vince.

This project, which will be located near the park restrooms and the park’s small playground, aligns with the Scouts’ commitment to serving their community by creating a space where individuals of all ages can come together to enjoy outdoor play and foster connections. By building the Gaga Ball pit, the Arrow of Light Den seeks to enhance the park’s amenities, encouraging more families to visit and utilize the public space, the Scouts said.

Through this initiative, the Cub Scouts will learn valuable skills in planning, teamwork, and construction while giving back to their community in a meaningful and lasting way. This project reflects their dedication to the Scout motto: “Do a Good Turn Daily.”

Students back earlier than normal following Crittenden spring break

Crittenden County School District has announced that Monday, April 7, will now be a school day for students. The day was initially set aside for professional development but is being used as a makeup day for the weather-related closure on Feb. 21. This adjustment prevents adding an extra day to the school calendar at the end of the year. Spring Break remains scheduled for March 31–April 4.

Livingston Spring break

Livingston County students will be on spring break at a different time than Crittenden. Livingston’s break is April 7–11.

Supt. Meinschein is leaving Livingston Co.

Livingston County School Superintendent Dr. David Meinschein will be leaving the district June 30 to take the job of superintendent of Murray Independent School District.

Meinschein, 53, took the job at Livingston in 2021 after coming over from Ballard County. He is a 1989 Livingston Central graduate who grew up in the Carrsville area. A military veteran, Meinschein is also a member of the Murray State University Board of Regents.

Leadership group in Marion on Thursday

Leadership West Kentucky (LWK) will visit Marion Thursday as part of a regional tour through Lyon and Crittenden counties. The West Kentucky Chamber Alliance organizes LWK each spring, which includes leaders from communities all across the region.

After spending the morning in Eddyville, the group will travel to Marion in the afternoon. Their visit begins at 1:30 p.m., with a tour of Par 4 Plastics, followed by stops at the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum at 2:30 p.m., Fohs Hall at 3:15 p.m. and the Marion–Crittenden County James C. Johnson Airport at 3:45 p.m.

The day will wrap up with a 4:30 p.m., reception at Game-day Pizza and Wings where Marion Mayor D’Anna Browning will formally welcome to the group to town.

Four local individuals are direct participants this spring in LWK. They are Chasta Champion of Farmers Bank, Tiffany Blazina of Crittenden County School District, Teris Swanson of Livingston County and Jessie Watson of Livingston Hospital.

Between Printed Editions Tune in to The Press Online for breaking news. We also ask that you subscribe to our YouTube Channel. It’s a Free Service to Our Readers!



10 YEARS AGO

March 26, 2015

■ As the first day of spring approached, various members of the community shared what they looked forward to most about the season. Keith Davis said he was looking forward to warm weather, his daughter graduating, softball season and St. Louis Cardinals baseball. Paul Beard, a Crittenden County constable, was eager for warm weather and being able to spend time outdoors. Caitlin Dunbar, an AmeriCorps volunteer, was excited for warmer weather, going to the beach and no more snow. Cheyanne Warriner, a teacher at Crittenden County High School, looked forward to warm weather, green grass, trees, softball, dogwoods and the smell of a spring morning when the sun comes up. Khyla Moss, a senior at Crittenden County High School, was anticipating longer days, warm weather and Easter.

■ Historical figures made special appearances at Crittenden County Elementary School. Pvt. William Greenhouse, portraying Harry Smith, visited Cindy Crabtree’s classroom and discussed American opposition to both the British occupation and the Indian Confederacy led by Chief Tecumseh in 1813. Greenhouse took part in the Thames Campaign and marched into Canada to drive out British troops who were being assisted by Tecumseh. The program was sponsored by the Murray State University Office of Regional Outreach and the Kentucky Humanities Council.

■ Rocket Role Models for Crittenden County Elementary School were Dixie Hunter, Autumn White, Cameron Rushing, Keifer Watson, Dakota Sosh, Quinn Summers, Canaan Cullen, Kayden Farmer, Tucker Boudro, Shelbi Belt, Lila Curnel, Kailyn Stokes, Tia Stoner, Peyton Rushing, Ian Guess, Gattin Travis, Leauna West, Matthew Conger, Jayson Ford, Hannah Long, Adrienne James, Karsen Shouse, Gage Russell, Jordan Hutchison, Faith Conner, Jake Drawdy, Nathan Bozeman, Kaleb Nesbitt, Nate Faith and Allie Combs. Crittenden County High School students of the month were Sage Winterheimer, Jacob Hackney, Ethan Hunt, Elizabeth Davies, Corey Guess, Makayla Quertermous, Dianna Bradford, Kayla Davis, Megan Chambliss, Texas Young, Caelyn Clark, Braden Locke, Rachel Butler, Neal Guess, Emma Atchison, Trey DeBoe, Shane Jacobs and Drake Mathews.

25 YEARS AGO

March 30, 2000

■ Crittenden County Elementary P5/P4 Science and Math Expo winners were first place, Emily Lowery; second place, a tie between Jansen James, Gaige Courtney and Brandon DeBoe; third place, Jessie Midkiff; and honorable mentions, Lacy Etheridge, Taylor Wright, Hillary Guerin and Anna Jimenez. Winners of the fifth grade were first place, Jared Asbridge and Justin Asbridge; second place, a tie between Dustin Hillyard and Jake Highfil; third place, a tie between Logan Stout, Julia Adams and Darah Easley; and honorable mentions, Cody Brown and Evan Smiley.

■ A 12-member mission team from Marion United Methodist Church was set to leave for a 10-day work detail at the site of a children’s home under construction in Guatemala. The home was being built by The World Our Parish, operated by Steve and Pam English, formerly of Marion. Participants in the trip were Denise Hamilton, Ann English, Phil English, Buddy Watson, Rev. Ken Spurrier, Mary Jane Watson, Kenny Crider, Rebecca Johnson, Mike Hamilton, Brian Kirby, Mike Keller and Lee Ann Grainger.

■ Rocket baseball catcher Joey Rich was pictured fielding a ball on the infield in front of teammate Brad Guess during a season-opening victory against Hardin County at City-County Park in Marion.

50 YEARS AGO

March 27, 1975

■ During the annual Antique Show held by the Clay PTA, Frank Stallion of Marion showcased a piece of his money collection to a prospective buyer.

■ Mrs. Lucy Tedrick presented a plaque to the family of Marion City Policeman Louis W. Myers, who died in uniform while chasing an escaped convict on Aug. 29, 1973. The memorial to Patrolman Myers was presented to the family during a ceremony at City Hall. The plaque was mounted on the wall of the police department office. Family members in attendance were Mrs. Myers and her three sons, Eddie, Tony and Jerry. Another son, Ronnie, was with the National Guard unit in Texas and was unable to attend.

■ Circle “O” Farm Center held a customer appreciation day during the firm’s annual event. Michelle Duvall, the 5-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duvall, helped draw a lucky prize winner. The winners were Robert Ordway, who won an extension cord; James Rhem, a first aid kit; Bernice Travis, a hammer; Joyce Watson, 1 gallon of Lasso; Cecil Nunn, an 11-by-4-foot auger; Kenny Champion, a water cooler; Katherine Champion, a soldering gun; and the grand prize winner, Harold Robinson, who received a portable TV.

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

Crittenden Press

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Living in uncertain times

Do not let the title of this column trick you into thinking that you have ever lived in certain times. No one has, no one ever will. It doesn't take too many years of living to experience a few days that begin normally and end in a very different and unexpected place. Do not fall into the trap of what we now call re-necy bias, on which both political and religious charlatans thrive and profit.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

It does not take very much effort to investigate history and learn that times are always uncertain. It is when the waters are calm that we let down our guard and get blindsided. When there is turbulence, we are more alert and prepared. There are times to shout and fight and there are times to stay quiet and passive. Wisdom is knowing the times we are living in and doing whatever we do with clarity and intent.

In a world filled with fake outs, noisy headlines, misinformation (also not a new thing), and a few people who enjoy causing distress in others, it is important to keep focused on what we can do and

what is important to us. I have said many times that wisdom in the Bible is skill, and a wise person puts their skill to good use for the benefit of themselves and others.

The first command that God gave to human beings is, "be fruitful and multiply." It is a consistent message in the Bible that children are a blessing. There are few things that are so powerful as passing on skill, faith, and hope to the next

generation. Having children, adopting children, teaching children all move us toward the future with hope.

We all know that we make the world that they will inherit. It always has struck me as odd that older generations are so ready to criticize the human beings that they taught. Perhaps it is worth reconsidering what is taught rather than the recipient of such apparently deficient training.

If I were to choose one chapter in the Bible to prepare a young person for living in a world that changes constantly, it might be Ecclesiastes

11. There are other places to go for practical teaching, Proverbs 1-9, Matthew 5-7 (Sermon on the Mount), I Peter, and several chapters in the prophets. But this short chapter (ten sayings), is a succinct reminder to act now rather than wait for everything to line up just right. There is advice to diversify one's resources, to understand that sometimes things happen (if a tree falls, there it is - deal with it!), and to be honest and generous. It is a reminder that there will be dark days and that youth is passing, so enjoy it with discretion.

For those of you who know teenagers or young adults who are trying to find their way, read this with them and discuss it. It is rich and meaningful. It gives different generations important topics to discuss. It is wisdom that will help us to make each other wiser.

■ Send out your bread upon the waters, for after many days you will get a return.

■ Divide your means seven ways, or even eight, for you do not know what disaster may happen on earth.

■ When clouds are full, they empty rain on the earth; whether a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie.

■ Whoever observes the wind will not sow; and whoever regards the clouds will not reap.

■ Just as you do not know how the breath comes to the bones in the mother's womb, so you do not know the work of God, who makes everything.

■ In the morning sow your seed, and in the evening do not let your hands be idle; for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.

■ Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun.

■ Even those who live many years should rejoice in them all; just remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that comes is passing.

■ Rejoice, young man, while you are young, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Follow the inclination of your heart and the desire of your eyes but understand that for all these things God will bring you into judgment.

■ Banish anxiety from your mind and put away pain from your body; for youth and the dawn of life are passing. (Ecclesiastes 11:1-10)

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.

Our greatest sin is the false belief that we don't need the Lord

Question: I have a pretty good job. I have reasonably good health. For the most part, my family is doing well. If all is going well for me, why do I need the Lord?

A: Let me be honest and straight with you. You seem to be struggling with pride! So many of us have the same top three friends: me, myself and I. We need to be aware of our sin of pride and to be rescued from it. Proverbs 16:18 reminds us, "Pride goes before a destruction, a haughty spirit

Ask the Pastor

By Bob Hardison



before a fall." Our greatest act of pride is the false belief that we don't need the Lord.

King David also struggled with pride and arrogance. "When I felt secure, I said, I will never be shaken" (Ps. 30:6). He didn't remain in his pride for he called out to God for help.

"Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me; O LORD, be my help . . . that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O LORD, my God, I will give you thanks forever" (Ps. 30:10, 12).

The Lord is a gracious listener to all who call on Him. You can have a per-

sonal relationship with Him like David. Admit your need as a sinner. Be willing to turn from your sins (repent). Believe in Jesus Christ, who sacrificially died to pay your sin-debt. (Jn. 3:16). Through prayer, invite Him to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast" (Eph. 2:8, 9).

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

Religious Outreach

- Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.
- Salem Baptist Celebrate Recovery meets Monday's 5:30 p.m. with a meal at 6 p.m., at 209 Highland Street, opposite side of the building from the Thrift Store.
- Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others to enjoy.
- First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.
- Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.
- Salem Baptist Church Thrift Store is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday at 209 Highland St., Salem.
- The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of severe weather.
- Fredonia Unity Baptist Church's clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.
- The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.

ENON

General Baptist Church

invites you to join us as we

WALK THROUGH CALVARY

Visit the scriptures that Jesus experienced each night before Easter.

April 16 - April 19, 7 nightly

April 20

Visit the Blessed site of the Empty Tomb

Easter Services start at 7 a.m.

Everyone welcome!!

1771 SR 132

Bro Michael Stewart, Pastor

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with us this week

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

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Rodney Phelps, Pastor
(270) 704-2400
emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com
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St. William Catholic Church

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

Mexico Baptist Church

175 Mexico Rd.
(270) 965-4059
MexicoBaptist.org
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.
"Whatever It Takes"
Bro. Jamie Baker
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

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
Join us for praise & worship
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holeman
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m., ONLINE 11 a.m., SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:05 a.m.
WEDNESDAY: BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER 6 p.m., AWANA FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

Crooked Creek Baptist Church

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

Crayne Community Church

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

growing in grace

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

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."

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Worship 11 a.m.
Bible study 6 p.m.

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

Marion Church of Christ

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

Opening day for museum set for April 2

The Crittenden County Historical Museum will open for the season on Wednesday, April 2. The museum will have a new curator this year, but still a familiar friendly face that many will remember from a few years back when she was curator. We are happy that Roberta Shewmaker has agreed to return as the curator. Roberta, as you know, is familiar with Crittenden County, its people and history. The society is excited to have Roberta back at the museum.

The beautiful old church structure that is now home to the historical museum has a remarkable history. It is the oldest church building in Marion, built in 1881. The historical building is 144 years old this year. Let's look back at some of the history of this wonderful old building and some of the historical items it houses.

Church's beginning

Its early beginnings started back in 1803. At that time it was known as the Bethany Presbyterian Church. Church records show that the Bethany congregation erected a building on Crooked Creek about two miles from where the city of Marion would later be located. This building was on the site presently occupied by the Crooked Creek Baptist Church.

Shortly after Crittenden County was formed and Marion was chosen as the county seat in 1842, the church moved from Crooked Creek to Marion. The new block church building was located where the Old Marion Cemetery is today on the corner of Moore and Gum streets.

At the spring meeting of the Presbytery in April 1846, the church's name was changed from Bethany to Marion. The church's membership was 46, and they had outgrown the little block building at the cemetery location. After much discussion, it was decided to build their new church building closer to town where it would be more convenient for people to attend. The new church would be built on the corner of what is now East Bellville and College streets, constructed on land donated by a member of the church, David Woods.

The First United Presbyterian Church held services for over 120 years in this building until the fall of 2002 when it was forced to close its doors due to lack of membership. The West Kentucky Presbytery, the church's governing body, and the dozen or so active members remaining, donated the church building to the Crittenden County Historical Society for a museum. They thought with the rich history of the church and the historical building that it was, there could no better use for the building and it would continue to serve the community, even in a different capacity.

New home for museum

The historical society gratefully accepted this gift and at once started restoration work on the inside, so it would be ready to open in the spring of 2004. The Crittenden County Historical Museum opened its doors in its new home on April 1, 2004.

Some of the items from the church's rich history are enjoyed by locals and visitors alike when they enter the building. The beautiful one-of-a-kind stained



glass windows are always a favorite and one of the first sights you see when entering the

museum. The church history handed down tells us that the windows were imported from Germany and were insured for \$1,000. The colorful glass window panes intensify in color depending on the weather. On cloudy days they cast a more green hue and on a bright sunny day they cast a golden glow on

the inside of the building.

Other original items to the building is the very large dark wood entry door, and the beautiful ornate balcony rail that frames the balcony and the large classroom doors with beveled etched glass panes. Another church history is that the original plans for the church didn't have a balcony but the businessmen of Marion paid to have it added on so their black servants could attend church with the family.

Also donated to the museum by the church was the old church pump organ and stool and several different styles of communion sets that had been used through the years, the oldest dating back to 1871.

Although the museum is limited on actual display space inside the building and also on the grounds that the church sits on, the society is proud to be caretakers of this beautiful historic church and share its history with everyone in the community and to the visitors that come through our town.

If you have never been to visit the historical museum, please try to do so. You will find all kinds of Crittenden County history waiting for you to see, plus just the history and beauty of the old building.

New items displayed in the museum

Some wonderful new items of Crittenden County history were donated to the museum this past year. Included are:

■ Beautiful cut glass collection belonging to James Terry. This vintage cut glass display was donated by Reg and Mary Helen Hodges of Florida, formally of Crittenden County.

They were good friends with James Terry, who had a very large collection of cut glass in his store on West Bellville St. During their friendship, Terry taught Reg many interesting things and shared useful tips on cut glass and how to care for it. It's a stunning display you don't won't to miss seeing.

■ Beautiful coverlet made on the Lamb Loom over 150 years ago, by Sarah Ann (Phillips) Lamb. This is a unique and colorful piece of history to go along with the Lamb Loom, which is one of the oldest items in the museum. The Lamb family was also known for their wood-working skills.

■ Basketball pendant from the 1931 Tolu Basketball Championship belonging to Virgil Hughes. A relic linked to Tolu's 1931 basketball championship has a new home at the Crittenden County Historical Museum. The family



of the late Virgil Hughes, who was a member of that team, donated the basketball necklace he and other teammates received when the Tolu Indians won the Class B Championship, beating Betsy Layne 28-11 in March 1931. The basketball necklace presented to the historical museum has been passed down through the Hughes family for four generations. Virgil Hughes' son Ronnie "Doorknob" Hughes had possession after Vir-

gil died, then passed it down to his son Dane. Most recently it has been in the safe keeping of Dane's daughter Brittany. This special piece of Crittenden County history is located in the school room of the museum.

• A child's metal desk from Frances Elementary School when it closed in 1998 is located in the school room with many other school-related items from history.

■ Several paintings done by the late Roger

Morris.

From the Crittenden County fiscal court these items have been donated to the museum to help preserve our history:

■ Illinois Central Railroad Centennial Marker that used to sit on the courthouse square. In March of 1951 the Illinois Central Railroad would have celebrated a century of Illinois Central Railroad service to Mid America. It was their 100th anniversary of the signing of the charter creating the 705-mile railroad in Illinois which had become a 6,543-mile railroad in 14 states. This marker now sits in front of the museum with a plaque telling its history to the county. There is more railroad/train history inside.

■ Dedication plaque from the recently torn down Crittenden County Courthouse built in 1961.

■ Engraved bridge rock from the Bells Mines bridge built in 1939 by the WPA.

Operating Days and Time

The museum's hours of operation are 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday. Hope you can find time to stop by for a visit. Crittenden County history is calling you.

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

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CRAYNE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

will have its

Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 5

9 a.m.

at the

Crayne Community Church

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Thank you in advance,
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Sat, Mar. 29th - 10:00 A.M.

Don Spurrier Estate - 181 DN Spurrier Rd, Marion, KY

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BASEBALL | SOFTBALL
Freshman baseball

Schedule and Results
Mar 18 Marshall County, lost
Mar 22 at Marshall County, lost
Mar 31 Webster County
Apr 1 at Union County
Apr 7 at Graves
Apr 10 at Graves
Apr 11 at Trigg County
Apr 12 Marshall County
Apr 14 at Dawson Springs
Apr 21 at Union County
Apr 24 Dawson Springs
Apr 26 at Webster/Henderson
May 2 at McCracken Tournament
May 3 at McCracken Tournament
May 6 Union

This Week’s Schedule

SPRING SPORTS
THURSDAY
Baseball Crittenden at Livingston
Softball Marshall at Crittenden Co.
Softball Livingston at Lyon County
FRIDAY
Baseball Crittenden at HopCentral
Softball Crittenden at Trigg County
Softball Livingston at Illinois Tourn.
SATURDAY
Baseball Crittenden at Webster
Softball Livingston at Illinois Tourn.
MONDAY
Softball Livingston at Christian Co.
TUESDAY
Baseball Livingston at Webster
Baseball Hardin, Ill., at Crittenden
Softball Livingston at Union County

GOLF
Orange Jacket at DLGC

Deer Lakes Golf Course will host its annual Orange Jacket Invitational on May 17-18 sponsored by Edward Jones. The entry fee is \$125, which includes cart fees for both days, a free practice round and the event’s famous burger meal on Sunday. Tee times will be scheduled between 8 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. each day. Participants can select their partners and tee times for Saturday, while Sunday’s pairings will be based on Saturday’s scores. The tournament features individual stroke play, with flights determined after the first round. A skins game will take place on Saturday, and players’ pools will be available on Sunday.

BASKETBALL
Croft’s Court of Honor

Jimmy Croft, the all-time winningest boys basketball coach in Crittenden County High School history and a Rocket Hall of Famer, will be recognized Friday at Rupp Arena as part of the Sweet 16 Boys Basketball Tournament by the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches Court of Honor. Croft coached the Rockets at his alma mater from 1995 to 2005. When he took the job, Crittenden hadn’t had a winning season in more than 20 years. Over a 10-year period, his squads won 138 games and lost 117. In 1998, Croft and his Rockets won the Fifth District championship — one of only two CCHS has won since 1957. Croft’s 2000 Rockets won 20 games for the first time since Marion and Crittenden consolidated schools in the 1950s. Croft was head coach of the Lady Rockets from 1985 to 1990 with a 61-51 record. He was boys’ head coach at Livingston from 2006 to 2011 with a 56-67 record. Croft was also an assistant coach at CCHS and at Trigg County, when his son Payton was head coach there. Croft’s career head coaching record is 255-235 over 20 years, and he coached 16 more years as an assistant.



Jimmy Croft

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

New license year begins

The new Kentucky hunting and fishing license year began earlier this month and runs through Feb. 28 of next year. Fees for Kentucky residents are unchanged from the 2024-2025 license year, yet some non-resident fees have gone up. In Kentucky, a license covers basic hunting or fishing for many species.



PHOTO BY AMY JONES

Crittenden County’s track and field team for 2025 includes (front from left) Raylee Millikan, Hannah Whitney, Zaidyn White, Matthew Counts, Miles Yates, Jazzy Travis, Clay Collins, (second row) Reece Travis, Kaylin Coleman, Aliza Maraman, Haley Moore, Noah Martinez, River Rogers, Coach Sandra Martinez, Coach Nick Martinez, Ella Whitney, Ella Geary, Presley Potter, Shelbi Belt, Mary Martinez, Jaycee Bruce, Erika McKendree, (back) Madison Walker, Layken Gilchrist, Gage Markham, Glenn Starkey, Kaiden Farmer, Aiden Musser, Matthew Valentine, Asa McCord, Lucas McDowell, Camden Nash, Johnathon Tramel, Kaden Herrington, Kadence Hackney, Noah Byford, Bryan Chaney and Landon Starkey.

Crittenden County Track & Field Roundup

At Muhlenberg County

Here are Crittenden County results from Muhlenberg County Invitational on Saturday.

- BOYS**
100 Meters
34. Noah Byford (13.47), 39. Camden Nash (14.43)
200 Meters
36. Kadence Hackney (27.96), 39. Camden Nash (28.59)
400 Meters
20. Matthew Valentine (1:03.03), 32. Kaden Herrington (1:09.30)
800 Meters
31. Landon Starkey (2:44.18), 32. Matthew Valentine (2:46.54)
1600 Meters
17. River Rogers (5:43.31), 23. Noah Martinez (5:54.83), 29. Landon Starkey (6:09.48)
3200 Meters
11. River Rogers (12:23.55), 17. Landon Starkey (13:45.36)
4x100 Meter Relay
10. Crittenden County (48.52)
4x200 Meter Relay
18. Crittenden County (1:53.66)
4x800 Meter Relay
11. Crittenden County (10:44.23)
Long Jump
30. Aiden Musser (13-2.25), 31. Jamison Stevenson (13-1.75)
Triple Jump
15. Noah Byford (32-8.75), 19. Jamison Stevenson (25-7)
Discus
22. Bryan Chaney (79-4), 29. Aiden Musser (71-5)
Shot Put
36. Bryan Chaney (26-10.5), 42. Aiden Musser (24-2.5)
GIRLS
100 Meters
29. Hayley Moore (16.71), 30. Kaylin Coleman (17.05)
200 Meters
21. Shelbi Belt (32.02), 31. Hayley Moore (35.71)
400 Meters
14. Shelbi Belt (1:13.81), 19. Presley Potter (1:16.41)
800 Meters
10. Ella Geary (2:54.55)
1600 Meters
8. Mary Martinez (6:20.50)
3200 Meters
5. Mary Martinez (13:34.43)
100 Meter Hurdles
12. Susana Suggs (23.32)

- 300 Meter Hurdles**
13. Susana Suggs (1:15.66)
4x100 Meter Relay
14. Crittenden County (1:05.59)
4x200 Meter Relay
13. Crittenden County (2:06.91)
4x400 Meter Relay
7. Crittenden County (5:00.16)
High Jump
9. Presley Potter (4-2)
Long Jump
4. Ella Geary (14-1), 23. Susana Suggs (9-8.5)
Discus
12. Layken Gilchrist (57-7), 21. Erika (Bre) McKendree (44-4)
Shot Put
9. Layken Gilchrist (24-3.5), 22. Erika (Bre) McKendree (19-3.5)

At Caldwell County

Here are Crittenden County results from Caldwell County First Flight Invitational Track and Field meet on March 15 at Princeton.

- BOYS**
100 Meters
11. Noah Byford (12.87), 14. Kaden Herrington (13.31), 16. Camden Nash (14.05)
1600 Meters
6. River Rogers (5:18.05), 7. Landon Starkey (5:37.40), 9. Noah Martinez (6:07.51)
200 Meters
13. Gaige Markham (26.44), 15. Kaden Herrington (28.29), 16. Kadence Hackney (28.97)
3200 Meters
3. Asa McCord (11:15.78), 4. River Rogers (11:37.00), 7. Landon Starkey (12:48.00)
400 Meters
5. Matthew Valentine (1:00.34), 6. Gaige Markham (1:00.67), 8. Aiden Musser (1:04.80)
4x100 Meter Relay
2. Crittenden County (1:04.00h)
4x200 Meter Relay
5. Crittenden County (2:05.00h)
4x400 Meter Relay
6. Crittenden County (4:16.00h)
4x800 Meter Relay
5. Crittenden County (9:45.00h)
800 Meters
11. Landon Starkey (2:33.52), 13. Matthew Valentine (2:41.83)
Discus
10. Bryan Chaney (72-10.5), 11.

- Glenn Starkey (71-6.5), 16. Aiden Musser (51-8)
High Jump
6. Noah Byford (4-10), 7. Jamison Stevenson (4-10)
Long Jump
9. Gaige Markham (15-8.5), 11. Jamison Stevenson (15-0), 12. Kadence Hackney (14-6)
Shot Put
9. Johnathan Tramel (29-8), 10. Glenn Starkey (27-4), 11. Bryan Chaney (26-8)
Triple Jump
8. Noah Byford (33-4), 9. Jamison Stevenson (33-0)
GIRLS
100 Meters
21. Hayley Moore (16.45), 22. Kaylin Coleman (16.73), 23. Jaycee Bruce (17.04)
100 Meter Hurdles
5. Susana Suggs (21.37)
1600 Meters
Mary Martinez (5:52.72), 7. Ella Whitney (7:12.87)
200 Meters
11. Shelbi Belt (30.59), 17. Hayley Moore (35.05), 18. Kaylin Coleman (36.37)
300 Meter Hurdles
Susana Suggs (1:01.34h)
3200 Meters
2. Mary Martinez (12:56.35)
400 Meters
7. Shelbi Belt (1:09.70), 12. Presley Potter (1:14.80), 18. Hayley Moore (1:23.53)
4x100 Meter Relay
2. Crittenden County (1:12.00)
4x200 Meter Relay
5. Crittenden County (2:26.00)
4x400 Meter Relay
4. Crittenden County (5:04.00)
800 Meters
3. Ella Geary (2:44.00), 10. Ella Whitney (3:21.77)
Discus
8. Layken Gilchrist (61-2), 11. Madison Walker (53-6.5), 13. Ella Whitney (47-2)
High Jump
5. Presley Potter (4-6)
Long Jump
2. Ella Geary (15-3), 4. Susana Suggs (13-4.5)
Shot Put
6. Layken Gilchrist (26-6), 7. Madison Walker (26-5), 13. Erika (Bre) McKendree (17-6)

TRACK & FIELD

Girls Roster

Athlete	Grade
Shelbi Belt	Soph
Jaycee Bruce	Fresh
Kaylin Coleman	Fresh
Ella Geary	Junior
Layken Gilchrist	Soph
Georgia Holeman	Junior
Aliza Maraman	Fresh
Mary Martinez	Senior
Bre McKendree	Fresh
Raylee Millikan	7th
Giselle Montero	Soph
Hayley Moore	Fresh
Presley Potter	Soph
Cheyenne Starkey	Junior
Susana Suggs	Junior
Ilana ‘Jazzy’ Travis	7th
Madison Walker	Junior
Ella Whitney	Junior
Hannah Whitney	7th
MaCayla Willingham	7th

Boys Roster

Noah Byford	Soph
Bryan Chaney	Senior
Clay Collins	6th
Junior Cowsert	Fresh
Kayden Farmer	Soph
Bryan Chaney	Senior
Junior Cowsert	Fresh
Kayden Farmer	Soph
Kaden Herrington	8th
Kadence Hackney	Fresh
Gaige Markham	Soph
Noah Martinez	8th
Asa McCord	Senior
Lucas McDowell	Fresh
Aiden Musser	Soph
Camden Nash	Fresh
CJ Nelson	Fresh
River Rogers	Soph
Glenn Starkey	Junior
Landon Starkey	Junior
Jamison Stevenson	Junior
Johnathan Tramel	Fresh
Matthew Tramel	Senior
Reece Travis	8th
Matthew Valentine	Senior
Zayden White	6th
Miles Yates	6th

Crittenden County Baseball | Softball Roundup

BASEBALL

Nine Ft. Campbell runs in the top of the seventh inning dismantled a Rocket lead it had established early in the game as the Falcons beat CCHS for the first time in 10 years in a wild one, 22-19.

Crittenden jumped ahead 8-1 after two innings, but Ft. Campbell never gave up and when Crittenden – playing for the third time in three days – got deep into its bullpen, the Falcons swooped in for the upset.

Quinn Summers had four hits and drove in five runs, and Chase Conyer knocked in three on two hits. Hudson Stokes, Jaxton Duncan, Drake Young and Zack Rustin had two hits apiece. Stokes started strong on the hill, striking out seven but giving up six runs — five earned — over three frames. Jake Rich, Keegan Pierson and Eli Lovell tried to finish up but couldn’t corral the Falcons. Six errors and 13 walks proved problematic for the Rockets.

Crittenden, now 2-2 on the season, will work to regroup as the team opens Fifth District play Thursday at Livingston Central (3-3).

Rockets beat HCA at home

Crittenden rebounded from its first loss last week with an 8-3 win Friday over Heritage Christian Academy on Friday. Keegan Pierson led the Rockets’ offense with a 2-for-3 performance, scoring twice and hitting a double.



PHOTO BY GRACIE ORR

CCHS outfielder Hannah Jent gets the ball in after a Murray hit Monday at Marion.

Jaxton Duncan also doubled, drove in a run and scored once. Chase Conyer added two RBIs on one hit.

Crittenden took control early with a three-run first inning and never trailed. Despite recording just five hits, the Rockets capitalized on walks and aggressive base running while limiting HCA to four hits. Freshman right-hander Drake Young threw an 88-pitch complete game, striking out five, allowing one earned run and walking just one.

CCHS falls to Braves

Crittenden County dropped a 12-7 decision to Union County on Thursday. Eli Lovell scored three runs and tallied two hits, while Quinn Summers went 2-for-4 with two runs and an RBI. Chase Conyer also contributed at the plate with a hit, a walk, two RBIs and a double. The Rockets matched Union County in hits with eight, but 14 strikeouts and



PHOTO BY DAWN SUMMERS

Rocket Eli Lovell races for third during a win last Friday at home.

four fielding errors proved costly for CCHS.

Crittenden used five pitchers in the contest, with Asa McCord spending the longest time on the mound — three innings. He fanned four and walked one.

SOFTBALL

Elliot Evans and Anna Boone had 3 hits apiece as Crittenden County romped passed Murray 16-0 at home Monday, improving to 3-1 on the season.

CCHS smashed 19 hits with Andrea Federico, Morgan Piper, Elle McDaniel, Brenna Kemmer and Georgia Holeman each getting 2 hits.

Evans pitched all three innings of the mercy-rule-shortened game, striking out 4, walking 1

and scattering 3 hits. CCHS will be at home Thursday against Marshall County.

Lady Rockets roll at Mayfield

Crittenden exploded for 14 runs on 12 hits last Thursday to defeat Mayfield 14-3 on the road. Hannah Jent delivered a 3-for-3 performance with four RBIs and two runs scored. Anna Boone was 3-for-4 with three runs scored. Andrea Federico also chipped in with a 2-for-3 effort, driving in two and scoring three times, and Elliot Evans had two hits, reached base three times and crossed the plate on each occasion. Morgan Piper and Georgia Holeman each added an RBI. Crittenden played error-free defense in the win. Boone, Evans and Brodi Rich shared time in the circle. Evans struck out six in her two innings of work but allowed two of Mayfield’s runs.

CCHS shutout at Ballard

Crittenden County’s offense was stifled in a 7-0 loss at Ballard Memorial on Friday. The Lady Rockets managed just three hits and struck out eight times in the defeat. Elliot Evans went 2-for-3 with a stolen base, and Morgan Piper recorded the team’s only other hit. Ballard took control early, scoring in each of the first three innings to build a 7-0 lead. Ballard got all of its runs in the first three innings before Anna Boone settled in as a reliever and pitched a shutout the rest of the way, striking out five.

Spring cleaning starts with manageable tasks

Beyond the physical benefits of a clean and organized home, spring cleaning can offer mental health advantages. Clutter can contribute to feelings of anxiety, overwhelm, and even depression, while a tidy space can promote mental clarity and a sense of calm.

To maximize the benefits of spring cleaning, consider the following strategies:

- Prioritize tasks: Begin with smaller, manageable tasks to avoid feeling overwhelmed. This could involve decluttering a drawer, organizing a bookshelf, or washing windows.

- Focus on one room at a time: Instead of getting bogged down, concentrate on one area at a time. This can help prevent burnout and provide a sense of accomplishment as you complete each space.
- Use a timer: Set time limits to maintain focus and prevent procrastination. This can also help you break down larger tasks into smaller, more manageable chunks.



- Spread out the cleaning: Don't try to do everything at once. Spread out the cleaning process over several days or weeks to avoid feeling overwhelmed and to allow for rest and recovery.
- Ask for help: Don't hesitate to ask friends or family for help, especially with heavy or time-consuming tasks. This can make the process more enjoyable and efficient.
- Mindful cleaning: Practice mindfulness while cleaning by focusing on the present moment and the sensations of your body. This can help re-

duce stress and promote relaxation.

- Celebrate your progress: Acknowledge and reward yourself for your accomplishments along the way. This can help boost your motivation and maintain a positive outlook.
- By incorporating these approaches, spring cleaning can become a refreshing and calming experience. Remember, the goal is not just to clean your space but also to improve your mental well-being.

To assist with your spring cleaning Crittenden Family and Consumer Sciences is of-

fering two sessions to learn the healthiest way to clean. "Take a Load off", offered on March 20th at 7pm or March 29th at 9am will teach the most efficient laundry practices to care for your clothes and appliances. "Green Clean" is another spring cleaning program that will be offered on March 26th at 2pm and March 29th at 10:30am. Green Clean will teach how to prepare green cleaning recipes for a healthy home.

Call Extension at 270-965-5236 to register or for more information.

Wild turkeys are up; youth get to go first

KY AFIELD

Kentucky's spring hunting seasons kick off with the youth-only turkey season April 5-6, followed by the general season for turkeys April 12-May 4. Spring squirrel season, a popular activity for both novice and experienced hunters, commences May 17 and continues for nearly a month, concluding June 15.

Surveys foreshadow a great turkey season ahead.

"During our winter netting and leg banding research, we caught an unusually high number of jakes, or younger birds," said Zak Danks, Wild Turkey Program coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "This aligns with the productive poult hatch in 2024, so I expect hunters will see more jakes this spring."

Danks suggests this should be an especially good season for youth and new hunters looking to bag a bird for the first time. Younger birds are easier for hunters to fool than older birds that have been hunted previously.

Hunters would do well to have a good turkey call and know how to use it. The online Learn to Hunt Turkey webpage on the

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife website is a great place to start for tips and resources.

While most turkeys are harvested the opening weekend of the spring season, hunters should remember they still have three more weeks to take their bird. Weather plays an important role.

"In general, turkey hunting is more difficult on windy or rainy days, although I still hunt whenever I can," Danks said.

No more than two legal turkeys may be taken per spring season. A legal turkey is defined as a wild turkey that is male or has a visible beard. Hunters may only harvest one bearded turkey per wildlife management area (WMA), and no more than one bird may be taken per day. Turkeys taken by youths during the youth-only season count toward their spring turkey bag limit.

For those without a place to hunt, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife manages dozens of WMAs across the state open to the public for hunting. Find these online at the department's Wildlife Management Area & Public Lands Search webpage.

Danks recommends public lands hunters focus on prescribed burn



Youth hunters will be afield this weekend for a two-day early gobbler season. Toms have been vocal off the roost for the last week or two.

sites with the fresh regrowth favored by turkeys. Scouting via an interactive topographic and aerial photography map, like the one available on the department's Hunting webpage, will provide a starting point for finding this type of land. Hunters can also contact a regional US Forest Service ranger office or local Kentucky Fish and Wildlife biologist in an area they have chosen to hunt to ask about potential burn sites.

Hunters who want to stay in the woods after turkey season have nearly a month in May and June for squirrel season. The department's online Squirrel Hunting page provides expert advice on hunting, processing and cooking squirrels.

Squirrel hunting is ideal for novice hunters because it is not as equipment-intensive as many kinds of hunting. It also helps hunters develop their woodsman-ship skills.

While the state has eastern gray squirrels and eastern fox squirrels, most hunters are harvesting gray squirrels, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Small Game Program Coordinator Cody Rhoden said.

Gray squirrels are widespread and frequent wooded areas, while forests near agricultural fields generally attract more fox squirrels.

"Squirrels will be on the move by the time spring hunting starts," Rhoden said. "Looking for a food source is a good way to start scouting. They're not a hibernating species, so they'll be taking advantage of fresh green growth. You might see them on the ground finishing off winter food caches or foraging for vegetation and fungi."

Weather isn't a huge deterrent for squirrels, although they tend to hide on windy days.

"On sunny days, they like to lay prone on branches to absorb the warmth and sunlight," Rhoden added.


Many hunters use shotguns during the spring season because of the leaves on the trees. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's online Learn to Hunt Squirrel page features squirrel biology, season checklists, hunting advice as well as videos of processing harvested game and deciding on firearm type.

Before heading afield, view the regulations and season dates of each game species by consulting Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's online 2025 Spring Hunting Guide. It's important to note that this guide can only be found online.

The Learn to Hunt webpage is a hub for resources about Kentucky's different game species, processing wild game and upcoming learning opportunities with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's conservation educators. Check the department's Calendar for hunting courses or events.

More info about hunting is available on the department's website at fw.ky.gov. For questions, call 1-800-858-1549, 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. weekdays, excluding holidays.

TURKEYS	CRITTENDEN		LIVINGSTON	
	Harvest Figures		Harvest Figures	
Year	Harvest		Year	Harvest
2000	351		2000	197
2001	394		2001	221
2002	544		2002	348
2003	424		2003	328
2004	505		2004	332
2005	517		2005	357
2006	511		2006	410
2007	412		2007	325
2008	503		2008	390
2009	487		2009	341
2010	513		2010	401
2011	519		2011	329
2012	566		2012	384
2013	525		2013	367
2014	396		2014	313
2015	390		2015	266
2016	375		2016	305
2017	374		2017	296
2018	288		2018	226
2019	344		2019	239
2020	341		2020	233
2021	397		2021	261
2022	307		2022	267
2023	413		2023	341
2024	357		2024	300

Crittenden County Detention Center				
	JAIL CENSUS		Feb. 2025 Avg	Jan. 2025 Avg
	State Inmates		74.1	72.1
	Federal Inmates		67.3	65.7
	Other County Inmates		20.6	28.7
	Crittenden County Inmates		24.7	23.5
	TOTAL INMATES		186.7	190
	Highest Daily Count		195	199
DETENTION CENTER REPORT March 20, 2025			181	178.75
	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			
	DECEMBER			
	Total Receipts \$265,448.93			
	Disbursements \$303,844.54			
Last Month REVENUE		February 2025	January 2025	Monthly Average 2024
State Housing Payments		\$73,365.84	\$78,984.90	\$81,220.16
Federal Housing Payments		\$107,331.00	\$116,166.00	\$116,235.25
Federal Transport Payments		\$8,147.10	\$11,466.70	\$13,566.71
Lyon Co. Housing Payments		\$17,460.00	\$28,080.00	\$21,399.00
Other County Housing Payments		\$2,880.00	\$2,560.00	\$1,802.17
Weekend/Work Release		\$840.00	\$720.00	\$477.33
TOTAL HOUSING		\$210,023.94	\$237,977.60	\$234,709.79
Last Month ANALYSIS				
Cost of Crittenden Inmates		\$27,640.00	\$31,200.00	\$19,290.67
Numbers of Co. Housing Days		691	780	602.83
County Daily Housing Rate		\$40.00	\$40.00	\$32.00
Avg Daily Population Co. Inmates		24.7	23.5	19.86



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KSP offers free Youth Academy

Kentucky State Police are urging young Kentuckians to apply for the second annual Youth Academy Program, scheduled for July 21–25 at Trooper Island Camp on Dale Hollow Lake.

The free, weeklong camp is open to teens ages 16-17 and aims to introduce participants to law enforcement principles while promoting leadership and physical fitness. Activities will include training in forensics, crime scene analysis, commercial vehicle enforcement and team-building exercises.

Applications are due by June 10 and are available on the KSP website.

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KENTUCKY LAND SPECIALIST,
MARK WILLIAMS (270) 836-0819

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.

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

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

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



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City of Marion recognized several employees last week with Service Awards, highlighting their years of employment with the city. Pictured are (from left) Ronald “Red” Howton, 40 years as fire chief and more than 50 years with the fire department; Garry Gerard, 20 years in the maintenance department; Tony Jackson, 10 years in the maintenance department; Greg Tabor, 20 years in maintenance and wastewater treatment; Michele Edwards, 20 years as tourism director; Police Chief Bobby West, 20 years with the police department; City Treasurer Layten Croft, 10 years; Mayor D’Anna Browning; Jeff Black, 15 years at drinking water treatment plant; and Thomas Mason, 10 years at water treatment. Award terms do not reflect actual time of employment because some job anniversaries actually occurred in previous years.

Fredonia to celebrate Vietnam veterans

Vietnam War veteran J.T. Travis, who served two tours in the U.S. Marine Corps, will be among the featured speakers during a ceremony Saturday, March 29, honoring those who served during the Vietnam War era.

The event, hosted by the Fredonia Valley Heritage Society and Fredonia American Legion Post 103, will begin at 1 p.m. at the Fredonia Valley Veterans Memorial. It coincides with National Vietnam War Veterans Day — designated by federal law to be observed each year on March 29.

The public is invited to attend. All Vietnam War veterans in attendance will be recognized and presented with a commemorative challenge coin. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. A flyover by an Air Evac helicopter is also planned, and gifts will be given away through a drawing, including an engraved brick to be placed at the memorial and a copy of Veterans of the Fredonia Valley.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day marks the March 29, 1973, disestablishment of the U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, and the



Vietnam veteran J.T. Travis, shown in this Press file photo, will be keynote speaker at Saturday’s National Vietnam War Veterans Day celebration in Fredonia.

departure of the last U.S. combat troops. Around that same time, Hanoi released the final group of its acknowledged American prisoners of war.

The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration honors all veterans who served on active duty from Nov. 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975 — whether in-country, in-theater, or stationed elsewhere — as well as their families. The Department of Veterans Af-

fairs estimates between six and seven million U.S. Vietnam veterans are living today, along with millions of their family members.

Challenge coins and engraved bricks will be available for purchase at the event. Each \$25 coin sold helps provide a free coin to a veteran. Bricks are \$50.

Organizers encourage all Americans to thank Vietnam veterans for their service and sacri-

fice. “You answered the call of duty with bravery and selflessness, and we will never forget all you’ve done to keep us safe and free,” organizers stated. “On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you — from the bottom of our hearts.”

According to the latest Census figures, there are 274 Vietnam veterans living in Caldwell County, 214 in Crittenden and over 75,000 in Kentucky.

LIBRARY

Continued from page 1 novels. Her works include the Southern Breeze series, Carolina Dream (2017), Carolina Mercy (2018) and Carolina Grace (2019). She also authored a RenoVations series, which features Heart Restoration (2020) and Rebuilding Joy (2021). Her latest novel, Window of Peace, is a historical romance within the multi-author Stained Glass Legacy series. She is currently working on another book

in the RenoVations, Reframing Trust, which will be available this year.

Most of her books are contemporary romance, with a few side-trips into history and suspense.

Beyond her literary accomplishments, Merrick is deeply rooted in her personal and community life. She has been married for over 35 years and is the mother of two grown daughters. Soon, she will also be embracing a new role – grandmother. Her passion for music is another facet of her life, as she actively

serves as a church musician.

Merrick’s return to CCPL has been met with excitement, and she is already putting plans into motion. One of her first priorities is working with returning children’s librarian Abby Tinsley to prepare for the Summer Reading Program.

“She’s already started working on getting ready for summer reading, which she says will be bigger and better than ever this year.

Another success in Merrick’s return to the li-

brary was a well-attended Trivia Night a couple of weeks ago.

“It was a full house of adults and teenagers playing trivia, talking trash and having fun,” Merrick said.

Looking ahead, Merrick is eager to enhance CCPL’s programming and continue strengthening its role as a community hub.

Electronic subscribers see price adjustment

As of the first of this month, the price of The Crittenden Press newspaper increased to \$2 per issue. All electronic subscription rates have now been updated to reflect a price increase, but by a lower percentage than the single-copy rate.

We truly regret having to raise our prices, but in today’s economic climate – faced with ongoing inflation, particularly rising postage, newsprint and insurance costs – this adjustment is necessary in order to continue publishing the paper you count on each week.

It is worth noting that this is our first significant across-the-board increase in many years, and the first single-copy price increase in more than 20 years.

For those looking for the most economical way to stay informed, our email edition remains the best value. It is delivered straight to your inbox every Wednesday around noon with a convenient link to the full newspa-

per. It may not feel the same, but it looks just like our traditional version.

Access to our website, The-Press.com, remains free for breaking news, sports and other community information, such as election results, court news and more.

If you would like to switch your subscription type or have any questions about the new rates, please call our office at 270-965-3191 during regular business hours or email us at the-press@the-press.com.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. As one of the very last family-owned newspapers in all of western Kentucky, we remain devoted to this community and enjoy bringing you news, sports and information – and perhaps as importantly, chronicling for posterity. Our mission includes writing an accurate history of our county.

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Easter Egg Hunt

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The Egg hunt will begin at 10AM!










19 April
10AM



Crittenden County
Lions Club
Fairgrounds

ELECTED COUNTY JUDGE-EXECUTIVE | MAGISTRATES

Crittenden County Fiscal Court

Judge-executive	District 1 Magistrate	District 2 Magistrate	District 3 Magistrate	District 4 Magistrate	District 5 Magistrate	District 6 Magistrate
 <div>Perry Newcom (R) 107 S. Main St. Marion, KY 42064 270.965.5251 (o) 270.704.0457 (c) Perry.newcom@crittendencountyky.org</div>	 <div>Dave Belt (R) 308 Chandler Farm Rd. Sturgis, KY 42459 270.704.0199 (c) Dave.Belt@crittendencountyky.org</div>	 <div>Matt Grimes (R) 301 State Route 297 Marion, Ky. 42064 270.704.9832 (c) matt.grimes@crittendencountyky.org</div>	 <div>Robert Kirby (R) 1698 Chapel Hill Road Marion, KY 42064 270.889.1504 (c) Robert.kirby@crittendencounty.org</div>	 <div>Chad Thomas (D) 701 Hebron Church Rd. Marion, KY 42064 270.965.9727 (h) 270.339.4949 (c) Chad.Thomas@crittendencountyky.org</div>	 <div>Travis Perryman (R) 1700 Jackson School Road Fredonia KY 42411 270.969.1168 (c) Travis.perryman@crittendencountyky.org</div>	 <div>Scott Belt (R) 397 Fishtrap Road Marion KY 42064 270.704.0366 (c) Scott.belt@crittendencountyky.org</div>

Fiscal Court meets in regular session at the courthouse at 8:30 a.m., on the third Thursday of each month