



The Crittenden Press

Haven Henager among CCES \$\$ learners | Page 10

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THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

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

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TWO DOLLARS

Hurricane season

Hurricane Youth Camp and Camp Meeting are coming up next month. It's time to register for the youth camp, which will be held June 9-14 at the campgrounds. Campers must have completed the second grade to attend. Cost is \$225 for overnight campers or \$200 for day campers. Registration deadline is June 2. Space is limited. For information, call (270) 704-5216. In conjunction with the camp is the historic outdoor revival that runs Sunday to Sunday on camp week. The nondenominational nightly Camp Meeting is the 137th for the open-air tabernacle on the grounds of Hurricane Church just east of Tolu.

Rockcrawlers, bouncers rolling at Sugar Creek

Outlaw Off-Road Racing will be held this weekend at the Sugar Creek facility on Sugar Grove Church Road in rural Crittenden County. There will be three days of activities and competition. Gates open at 8 a.m., Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with racing starting Saturday morning at 10 a.m. Classes include Youth ATV, Side by Side, Pro-Am and Unlimited Bouncers. Weekend passes are \$50; Saturday-only passes are \$30. Kids under 8 enter free. Saturday night will include live music by Richie Lindsey and concessions from Lady Rocket Boosters.

Pickleballing Saturday

Marion's new pickleball courts at city-county park will host a Paddle with a Purpose Tournament starting at 10 a.m., Saturday. Open to players of all skill level, the round-robin tournament will feature divisions for men and women. The \$25 entry fee includes a T-shirt, with an additional \$15 for extra game sessions. Door prizes and snacks will be provided. Call 270-704-1069 for more information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Fiscal Court meets at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, May 15 at the county office complex.
- Crittenden County Board of Education meets at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, May 15, at Rocket Arena.
- Crittenden County Conservation District meets at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 15, at its office on East Bellville Street.
- Marion City Council meets Monday, May 19, at city hall.
- Fredonia City Council meets at 7 p.m., Monday, May 19, at city hall.
- Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission meets Tuesday, May 20, at 8:30 a.m., at the Marion Welcome Center.
- Salem City Council meets at 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 20, at the Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Crittenden-Livingston Water District meets at 4 p.m., Monday, May 26, at the Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Livingston Fiscal Court meets at 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 27, at the county office complex in Smithland.
- Caldwell County Fiscal Court meets at 9 a.m., Tuesday, May 27, at the courthouse.



Local churchgoers sued by KY UMC

Dispute part of broader United Methodist unrest

STAFF REPORT

A legal dispute has erupted between the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church (UMC) and Marion Methodist Church of Kentucky, Inc., stemming from the denomination's recent changes to its doctrine regarding human sexuality and other church policy. The ongoing litigation centers on property rights and the authority of the UMC over local congregations, following Marion Methodist's decision to separate from the larger denomination.

According to a complaint filed in Crittenden Circuit Court, the Kentucky Conference claims that Marion Methodist Church, previously known as Marion United Methodist Church, violated the UMC's Book of Discipline when it attempted to sever ties with the denomination without the required consent of the Conference. The UMC's Discipline, which serves as the primary governing document for its member churches, includes a trust clause mandating that all church property is held in trust for the benefit of the entire de-



nomination.

The lawsuit, filed on April 18, 2025, names the church and several individual defendants, including Barkley Hughes, Brian Kirby, Sandra Gilbert, Chris Evans, Kara Turley, Donald Keene and Rebecca Johnson, who are listed as officers or trustees of the church. The complaint accuses the defendants of unjust enrichment, breach of contract, and

conversion, alleging they unlawfully transferred property and amended the church's governing documents to remove references to the UMC and its Discipline.

The local congregation and individuals have retained legal services from the National Center for Life and Liberty.

The dispute traces back to the UMC's contentious doctrinal changes related to human sexuality, which have prompted many congregations to disaffiliate. Marion Methodist's leadership took steps to legally separate from the UMC, including changing its corporate identity and attempting to transfer real estate, including its church built in 1911 and a parsonage. However, the Kentucky Conference contends these actions were unauthorized and in violation of the church's governing rules.

Around 300 Kentucky churches have left the UMC, many joining the more conservative Global Methodist Church. Nationwide, several thousand churches

See **CHURCH**/page 8



Pictured are (from left) Randy Conway, Jake Tabor, Stacy Tabor Hernandez, Steve Tabor, Josh Tabor, Jeremy McQueary, Dustin Mullins, Rich Storm, Louise Doom and Natalie Tabor McPherson.

Memorial erected to warden who in 1973 drowned in river

STAFF REPORT

A permanent memorial honoring former game warden Denver Tabor was dedicated Tuesday at the Ohio River overlook within the Big Rivers Wildlife Management Area in northern Crittenden County. The site, which offers a sweeping view of the Ohio River, overlooks the river above what's known as the former Dam 50 area where Tabor drowned more than 50 years ago.

The monument, etched with a solemn inscription, reads: "We dedicate this site

to Conservation Officer D e n v e r T a b o r. On July 20, 1973, Officer T a b o r d r o w n e d while attempting to rescue a boy who had fallen overboard from a boat in the Ohio River. The section of the river in which the incident occurred can be seen from this site."

On that tragic summer day



Tabor

in 1973, Tabor, who was 35 years old, was in a boat alongside Livingston County Conservation Officer William Haskell Chambliss Sr., and his eight-year-old grandson William Cary Chambliss when their boat struck a log, tossing the boy into the river. The elder Chambliss told authorities that Tabor entered the water in an attempt to save the child. The rescue squad later recovered both bodies from the river.

Family members of Tabor,

See **WARDEN**/page 10

CCEDC sells property to Withrow

STAFF REPORT

A Marion businessman facing criminal charges in district court and suing the county in circuit court has purchased industrial park property from the Crittenden County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC).

The economic development group, funded by local government and private investors, announced early this week that it has sold 11.1 acres in Industrial Park North to JKMK Properties, a limited liability corporation owned by Kent Withrow and his wife.

Precise plans for the property remain unclear, but the CCEDC said in a news release that the sale aims "to generate quality, high-paying jobs and investment for Crittenden County."

"CCEDC is excited to have our first commercial property owner in Industrial Park North. We look forward to the plans that JKMK Properties, LLC, has for this tract of land and the opportunities that they will afford our community," CCEDC Board Chairman Chris Cook said in the statement. "This transaction

See **SALE**/page 8

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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Deaths

Wicker

William Edward Wicker, 66 of Salem, died at his home Monday, April 28, 2025.

He worked as a guard at the Kentucky State Penitentiary and was a veteran of the United State Army. He was a member of Life in Christ Church and enjoyed UK basketball and fishing. He never met a stranger.

Surviving are three daughters, Amanda (Jeffrey Mitchell) Wicker of Elizabethton, Tenn., Rebecca (Robert) Richardson of Louisville and Elizabeth Little of Princeton; a son, Zachary (Julie) Little of McMinnville, Tenn.; two grandchildren, Tobias Richardson and Louella Little; and a niece, Dora Smith.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Trina Renea Wicker; his parents, William and Mary Lois Hodge Wicker; and a



sister, Terry.

Friends may visit with the family from 1-2 p.m., Saturday, May 17 with a memorial service beginning at 3 p.m., at Myers Funeral Home.

Long

Dora Mildred “Peachie” Long, 98, died Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at the Ray & Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah.

She was a loving mother, homemaker and farmer, a member of Emmaus Baptist Church where she taught Sunday school, and she enjoyed singing in church.

Surviving are two daughters, Shirley Dycus of Kuttawa and Avonna Baker of Salem; eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jewell Orlin Long; her parents, Patrick Henry Riley and Willie Jane Sullivan; a son, Jewell Long; two brothers; and two sisters.

Funeral services were



Tuesday, May 13 at Myers Funeral Home. Burial will be in Mapleview Cemetery.

Thurmond

Barbara Ann Thurmond, 69 of Marion, died Saturday, May 10, 2025 at Salem Springlake Health and Rehabilitation Center.

She had been employed as assistant deli manager at Conrad’s Food Store for more than 20 years. She enjoyed gardening and cooking.

Surviving are her husband, Guy Thurmond Jr., of Marion; two daughters, Stephanie (Mike) Maness and Wendy (Todd) Lucas, both of Marion; a son, Mathew Thurmond of Marion; three brothers, Floyd (Sylvia) Pate, Harold Pate and Rickie Pate, all of Georgia; six grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter Roy and Mamie Fillyaw Pate; and two brothers, James Register and Donald Pate.

Funeral services were



Wednesday, May 14 at Myers Funeral Home. Burial was in Crowell Cemetery.

Leidecker

Zackery L. Leidecker, 36, of Paducah, died Monday, May 5, 2025 at Mercy Health Lourdes Hospital.

He was of the Baptist faith and was a member of the Army National Guard. He loved to fish, hunt, and go to the beach with his daughter Gracie and their dog, Flake.

Surviving are a daughter, Gracie; his mother, Patricia (John) McMurray of Long Island, NY; his father, Terry (Robin) Leidecker of Ledbetter; two sisters, Hannah (Colton) Ramage of Grand Rivers and Lily McMurray of Long Island, NY; two brothers, Heath Ringstaff of Smithland and Andy McMurray of Long Island and his grandparents, Donnie Leidecker and Don and Sue Ringstaff.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Cozette Leidecker.

Graveside services were Friday, May 9 at Lola Cemetery.



Student debt is dropping

The average loan amount at graduation last academic year was \$10,688, a decrease of \$5,237 since 2018-19. This amount represents the average of all undergraduates at KCTCS and public universities who finished school with a certificate or degree in 2023-24, including those with zero debt. When students with no debt were excluded from the calculation, the average rose to \$26,115, still 10% lower than in 2018-19.

“This report is good news for Kentucky college students and reflects the tremendous efforts campuses are making to keep higher education accessible and affordable, despite inflationary pressures,” said Dr. Aaron Thompson, CPE president. “While headlines warn of a national student loan debt crisis, balances among Kentucky students have been falling for a decade, and especially over the last five years.”

Chris Ledford, director of data and advanced analytics at CPE and the report’s lead author, attributes this trend to several factors. “Because state and institutional financial aid has risen so significantly, students and parents are borrowing less, and many leave college debt-free,” Ledford said. “CPE has capped tuition increases since 2010, and campuses are increasing financial literacy programming, which teaches students and parents about responsible borrowing. We’re also seeing students graduate in less time, which lowers their overall cost.”

The report compares average loan amounts for KCTCS and public university completers, as well as for low-income, underrepresented, in-state and out-of-state students. Excluding students with no debt, the average bachelor’s degree recipient owes \$32,996 upon completion, compared to \$13,629 for a KCTCS graduate. Typically, out-of-state students carry the largest loan balances, followed by underrepresented and low-income students.

Wonder what the best, healthiest snacks are?

KY HEALTH NEWS

If you have been wondering what the healthiest snacks are, Anahad O’Connor with The Washington Post has done the work for you, having analyzed the nutrition labels of dozens of ultra-processed and packaged snack foods.

O’Connor opens the story by pointing to a large study that found “that compared with people who snacked on nutritious whole foods, like apples, oranges, nuts and seeds, those who snacked on junk foods, such as cookies, candy and potato chips, had more visceral fat around their internal organs and higher body weights, blood sugar levels and triglycerides, a type of fat that circulates in the bloodstream.”

Federica Amati, a medical scientist at Imperial College London and head nutritionist at Zoe, a personalized nutrition company, advised cau-

tion when choosing snack foods, telling O’Connor that even if you tend to eat nutritious meals, snacking on junk foods can undo the metabolic benefits of eating healthy meals.

For each of the best snack options, O’Connor includes what he calls “red flags” and healthier options for that category.

For example, he notes that popcorn is a good choice, but can be high in sodium and sometimes sugar. He also offers five best popcorn choices, including SkinnyPop Original Popcorn, which has only three ingredients and is low in sodium.

Other suggestions include chips made with simple ingredients that

provide modest amounts of fiber, whole grain, nut and seed crackers, nuts, which he called “a nutritional powerhouse and an optimal snack,” beef jerky, protein and snack bars — because they are often available when real food isn’t an option or when you need something sweet — and some cookies in moderation.



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Community Calendar

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

Thursday, May 15

- Line dancing at the Crittenden County Senior Center begins at 9:30 a.m.
- Crittenden County Public Library Friends of the Library meets at 6 p.m. in the Library meeting room.
- Crittenden County High School SBDM meets at 3:30 p.m. in the High School library.
- Livingston Hospital New Beginnings invites you to focus on Mental Health Awareness Month by talking and walking at City-County Park starting at 11 a.m. First 10 people to sign in will get a goodie bag.
- Crochet Class starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.

Saturday, May 17

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

Monday, May 19

- Wits Workout at the Crittenden County Public Library begins at 1 p.m.
- Friends Forever begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Office.
- CCES SBDM meets at 4 p.m.

Tuesday, May 20

- Time well spent starts at 9:30 a.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- Shotgun and Trap begins at 5 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Park.
- Walk and Talk with Crittenden County School Administrators at 1:30 p.m. Meet up at the Crittenden County Board Office.

Wednesday, May 21

- Walk in the Park at 3 p.m. at Marion City-County Park.
- Horse and Livestock Clubs will be at 3:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- Walk and Talk - Special Olympics starts at 4:30 p.m. at Marion City-County Park.

Thursday, May 22

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


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Former coaches among golfers for a cure

STAFF REPORT

A shared love for golf and a personal battle with cancer have bonded four Kentucky men in a mission that's taken them from the western lakes to the eastern mountains, one golf course at a time.

Among the foursome are two familiar names to Crittenden County sports fans. One is Mike Wright, a retired Trigg County basketball coach who once skipped both the boys and girls programs, and has relatives in Crittenden County. The other is Al Starnes, a beloved former Crittenden County head football coach who retired in 2017 after 27 seasons. Starnes and his wife, Angela – herself a longtime track coach and athletic director at Crittenden County High School – now live on Lake Barkley in Trigg County.

Together with fellow cancer survivors Mike McGill and Shawn Williamson, Wright and Starnes have played more than 130 golf courses across 97 Kentucky counties as part of a grassroots effort called Golfing Kentucky for a Cure. The goal is to play every golf course in the state – all 239 of them – while raising \$50,000 for cancer research.

The initiative was born from Wright's desire to honor his late father, Gene Wright, who passed away in 2007 after a courageous five-year battle with stage 4 cancer. Wright said those extra years, made possible by trial treatments, gave his father time to see his grandsons grow and play high school basketball. That final season, both grandsons started in a district championship game, the last one Gene ever witnessed.

Not long after his father's death, Wright felt called to combine two of his strongest

passions, golf and defeating cancer. The effort started slowly, but it has grown into a yearslong journey that now includes a tight-knit team of men who've all been personally affected by the disease.

Starnes and his wife were both diagnosed with cancer in 2013 and battled through it together. Williamson lost his wife at age 39 to a rare cancer. She lived 10 years beyond her prognosis thanks to advanced care and research. McGill has also survived cancer, and many of his family members have faced diagnoses of their own.

"All of us have been touched by cancer," Wright said. "So this is something we take personally."

The concept is simple but meaningful. At each course, the group donates the full cost of their round, green fees and carts, to a dedicated account at FNB Bank in Cadiz. After playing, they support a locally owned restaurant in the area – no chains allowed – and document their visit with a group photo. Their journey was once chronicled in the Cadiz Record, and now lives online through updates and stories on their website.

Their path has brought them to some of Kentucky's top public and resort courses, including The Club at Olde Stone in Warren County, one of the premier private courses in the state; Kenny Perry's Country Creek Golf Course in Simpson County, developed by the PGA pro himself; the Pearl Club at The Summit in Daviess County, known for its championship layout; Lincoln Trail Golf Course in Hardin County and Juniper Hill in Franklin County, both favorites among everyday players and state tournament competitors.

Closer to home, the group



Golfers for a Cure (from left) Mike Wright, Al Starnes, Shawn Williamson and Mike McGill pose for a photo during a recent round raising money for cancer research.

has already teed it up in several counties with strong local ties. In Crittenden County, they played at Marion Country Club. In Trigg County, their home turf, they've played both Arrowhead Golf Club and Lake Barkley State Resort Park's Boots Randolph course. They've also played in Livingston County at both Deer Lakes and Drake Creek golf courses, and in Webster County at Providence Municipal Golf Course. Their travels have included Union County's Elkwood and Breckinridge courses and Lyon County's scenic Mineral Mounds at Lake Barkley.

All told, 15 of Kentucky's 120 counties do not currently have an operating golf course, but the group has still managed to check off some of those using past venues – like Carlisle County's now-closed Dogwood Hills – or by planning alternate community visits.

Wright said early on, some doubted the feasibility of their goal.

"Someone told me, 'Coach, you can't play every course in the state,'" he recalled. "I said, 'Well, I can't do it next week, but I can over a period of years.' And so the journey began."

The group's dedication has

raised more than \$16,000 so far, with each donation deposited into the Golfing for a Cure fund. When the final hole is played, all money raised will go to Trigg County Relay for Life to support cancer research.

To contribute, checks can be made to Golfing for a Cure and mailed to FNB Bank in Cadiz. Updates and course stories can be found online at their project website.

"We're not just swinging clubs," Starnes said. "We're swinging back against cancer, one round at a time."

So, what exactly is family, consumer science all about?

Homemakers and the Crittenden County Homemakers Association have been staples in Crittenden County for many years. Known for their excellent bread and outstanding service to the community, most people are familiar with the Homemakers and their work.

However, the role of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) and what an FCS agent does is less widely understood. For those who may not know, FCS focuses on various aspects of family life and community well-being. Homemakers fall under the umbrella of FCS, but the field encompasses much more.

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension strives to improve the quality of individual and family life in the Commonwealth by promoting health and well-being through community education programs. These programs focus on making healthy lifestyle choices, nurturing families, embracing life as we age, securing financial stability, promoting healthy homes and communities, accessing nutritious foods, and empowering community leaders.



So, what does that mean exactly? FCS offers programs, events, and classes to help individuals and families make informed decisions about healthy lifestyle choices, including incorporating physical activity into their daily routines, thereby reducing the risk of chronic disease and premature death.

FCS programs also work to strengthen family-nurturing attitudes and behaviors, build interpersonal communication and life skills, and support wise parenting practices.

By working with aging adults to adopt healthy lifestyles, FCS agents promote healthy aging. They help older adults manage environmental factors that contribute to independent living and encourage them to practice healthy communication and enhance relationships to improve their quality of life.

FCS efforts extend to reducing poverty and its effects by promoting financial literacy and encouraging sound financial practices, including job skills development and workforce preparedness.

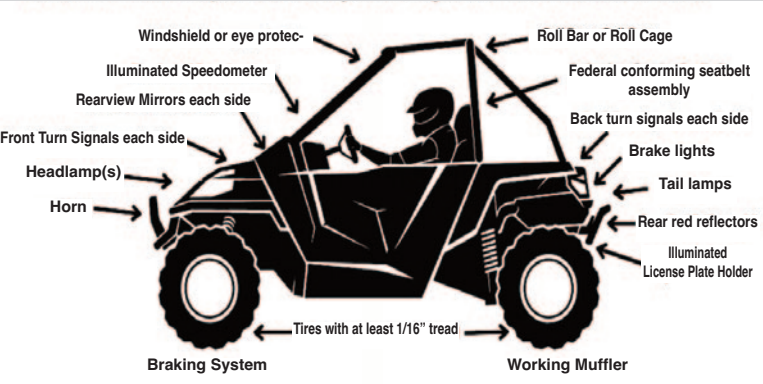
Through its work with families, FCS helps create safe homes that support physical and mental well-being. Programs teach families how to access food, stretch food budgets, and reduce hunger. They also collaborate with local food assistance programs to educate recipients on safe and healthy food preparation methods, increase access to fruits and vegetables, and support breastfeeding efforts to improve infant nutrition.

Finally, FCS works to empower community leaders by engaging, educating, and motivating local citizens to investigate issues, make responsible decisions, and take ownership of solutions. This approach aims to develop the skills and knowledge needed to enhance leadership capacity.

Why does this matter to the general public? Stronger families become more productive community members, which in turn helps communities thrive. What does FCS do? It builds stronger communities, one family at a time.

COMING SOON? STREET LEGAL ATVs IN KENTUCKY

Effective June 27, some local governments in Kentucky will begin allowing, by ordinance, the registration and operation of street legal special purpose vehicles within their jurisdictional boundaries. Meantime, you can be preparing for your sheriff's inspection by making sure your ATV or UTV meets the minimum requirements set by law for registration with the checklist below.



Local govt. approval would be required

ATVs, UTVs mini trucks, military vehicles and others could soon qualify for use on public roads – but there are several caveats. One of those is whether local government will allow it.

Special purpose vehicles, including certain ATVs, can soon be titled and registered for street use in parts of Kentucky under a new law that takes effect June 27. Senate Bill 63, passed earlier this year, permits local governments to establish ordinances allowing the operation of street-legal special purpose vehicles on highways within their jurisdictions.

The new law is similar to one passed a few years ago that allowed limited use of golf carts on public streets. However, under the current legislation, local governments (cities and counties) must pass an ordinance before the new rules can take effect. While some area counties are considering the change, as of now, no proposals are before local leaders for approval.

It is important to note that this law does not include traditional three- or four-wheelers, such as those equipped with handle bars. Most UTVs, however, are included in the new regulations.

Before the new law is fully implemented, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) must develop and approve regulations to ensure compliance

with federal standards and designate which routes will be approved for use. That guidance is expected to be released on or before June 26, meaning no special purpose vehicles can legally operate on public roads under this law until the state's regulations are finalized and local governments decide whether to opt in.

Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor, whose office will be charged with licensing such vehicles, says more information should be forthcoming in the near future. Local sheriffs will have the responsibility of making sure vehicles meet requirements for street use.

UTVs would not be allowed on parkways or interstates, but rural county roads and/or city streets could be in bounds if local jurisdictions so choose. A small license tag would be issued to legal rigs.

Crittenden County Sheriff Evan Head said there are pros and cons to consider with the new law. Safety should be priority number one, he said.

"You would have to be a licensed driver to operate one on the roadway," Head said. "People already drive them on roads, we might as well make them legal."

Crittenden Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said the county is not currently entertaining the idea of allowing them here, but pointed out that it could change based on public opinion.

Soccer 7v7 event organized by local youth sports group

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden Youth Soccer Association (CYSA) will host its first-ever 7v7 soccer tournament this summer at Marion City-County Park, offering a weekend of friendly competition, community spirit and prizes.

Set for Friday, June 13, and Saturday, June 14, the co-ed tournament welcomes players of all skill levels and ages. Friday evening's competition will begin at 5 p.m. and include middle school (ages 11-14) and high school (ages 14-17) brackets. Adult teams, for ages 18 and older, will take the field starting at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Registration is open through June 7, with a \$20 fee per player. Participants may sign up as full teams of 7 to 14 players or register individually to be placed on a team. Prizes for winning teams include gift cards, medals and team photos. The tournament is played on a U-10 sized field with 20-minute halves and modified rules, no offsides, no punts or dropkicks, and no slide tackling. At least one female player must be on the field for each team at all times, and unlimited substitutions are allowed.

Organizers emphasize sportsmanship, noting that unsportsmanlike conduct could result in team disqualification. The event is sponsored in part by the Marion Tourism Commission.

Registration forms are available at The Crittenden Press or online via the CYSA 7v7 Tournament Facebook post. Payments can be made by cash or check at the The Press or digitally through the Venmo at cc_youthsoccer (memo 7v7).

For more information, contact tournament coordinator Ashley at 270-704-5090.

CCHS graduation events next week

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County High School will hold its end-of-school events next week, beginning with baccalaureate on Sunday. This marks the final full week of classes for Crittenden County students.

Class Night is scheduled for Thursday, May 22, and graduation will follow on Friday, May 23.

All three graduation-related events will take place at 6 p.m. inside Rocket Arena.

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Crittenden makes new hires in school leadership roles

Crittenden County Schools has announced two new leadership appointments. Veteran educator Becky Bryant will fill the instructional coach vacancy at Crittenden County Middle School, effective July 1. Bryant, a 17-year teacher with experience in both elementary and middle school education, replaces Ashley Frederick, who was named principal last month. She said her background in multiple grade levels and content areas has prepared her well for the role.



Kinder



Bryant

“I have always tried to fill gaps where needed, help out new teachers, and just be a support for my team and school,” Bryant said. “These experiences have equipped me with a deep understanding of standards, instructional practices, and the value of collaboration and family.”

Bryant is married to fellow middle school educator Neal Bryant, and they have three children. In her free time, she enjoys cruising, reading, and crafting.

In a separate move, Marshall County teacher Laura Kinder has been named the district’s first Digital Learning Coach. Kinder, a 13-year educator, began her career in Henderson County before teaching at Marshall County High School and serving as an instructional coach. She said her passion for technology and teaching is a perfect fit for the new position, which will focus on helping teachers integrate digital tools in the classroom.

“I’m committed to collaborating with teachers and the community to help prepare our students for success in an ever-evolving world,” Kinder said.

Kinder, a graduate of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, Murray State University, and Campbellsville University, lives in Cadiz, Ky., with her husband, Gabe, and their dog, Scout. She enjoys woodworking, 3D printing, and jewelry making in her free time.

Area students are recognized by Univ of Cumberlands

Office of Academic Affairs at the University of the Cumberlands has named four area students to the President’s List for the spring 2025 semester. They are Kaylee Conger of Marion, Dakota Lamb of Salem and Courtney Cooper and Lindsey Harper, both of Princeton.

To qualify for the President’s List, students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours, maintain a minimum 4.0 GPA for the semester, receive an “A” in UC Engage, and be in good academic standing.

Additionally, Anna Craig of Fredonia, Holly Sigler of Morganfield and Michele Stacy of Sturgis were named to the spring 2025 Dean's List at the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg.

To qualify for the honor, students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours, maintain a minimum 3.50 GPA for the semester, and be in good academic standing.

Memorial Day Weekend offers five options for honoring fallen warriors

Memorial Day weekend events are planned in Crittenden, Caldwell and Livingston counties, offering multiple opportunities to honor fallen service members.

A service will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 24 at the Blackford Veterans Memorial featuring a 100-year-old World



War II veteran as keynote speaker.

Fredonia will host an event at 1 p.m., Sunday, May 26 at its Veterans Memorial.

On Memorial Day, Burna American Legion will host a breakfast at 8 a.m., at its facility off US 60 in Burna, followed by a 10 a.m., Memorial Day Service at Mapleview Cemetery in Marion.

At 11 a.m., on Memorial Day, there will be a service at Shady Grove Cemetery with a lunch at the fire department following the event.

Livingston describes summer lunch program

Livingston County Schools will kick off its Summer Meal Program on May 20 and continue through July 29. Families can pick up weekly to-go meal packs, each including seven breakfasts and seven lunches, every Tuesday at either North Livingston Elementary or South Livingston Elementary from 3 to 6 p.m.

Parents or guardians may pick up one pack per child, ages 2-18, each week. If a parent is not present, the child must attend pickup to receive a meal.

To participate, families must pre-register by filling out the online form at this link or scanning a QR code on the school’s Facebook page. For more info, contact Food Service Director Kristy Nelson at 270-928-2111 or via email at kristy.nelson@livingston.kyschools.us.



Kyle Cosby

Cosby recognized for work at prison utility

Marion resident Kyle Cosby, superintendent of the water treatment plant at the Kentucky State Penitentiary in Eddyville, has received the 2024 Microbial Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) Champion award from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet’s Department for Environmental Protection, Division of Water.

Cosby has worked at the state penitentiary for more than a decade, overseeing both water and sewer treatment operations. In addition to his supervisory role, Cosby teaches inmates the technical skills required for careers in water and wastewater management, providing them with employable skills for life after incarceration.

Under his leadership, the penitentiary’s water treatment facility has won the Area-Wide Optimization Award for nine consecutive years, including eight years of achieving a perfect 100% optimization score.

AT&T wants tower permit for 60W site

New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (a subsidiary of AT&T) is seeking approval from the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) to build a new wireless communications tower at 3600 US Highway 60 W in Marion. The location is on the south side of US 60 just across from the Animal Clinic at Moore Hill.

The PSC is responsible for reviewing and approving such

applications to ensure the proposed facility complies with state regulations, including considerations for public safety, environmental impact, and local zoning requirements. The company’s legal advertisement regarding the application to build a tower is located in the classified section of this edition.

KSP seeks public help in solving murder case

Police are seeking public help in solving the April 2024 homicide of Dorothy D. Sparks, a beloved resident of South Jefferson Street in Princeton. Kentucky State Police responded to Sparks’ home at the request of the Caldwell County Sheriff’s Office on April 18 a year ago, finding her deceased and quickly ruling her death a homicide.

Sparks, 93 at the time of her death, was known for her warm demeanor. She is remembered by family and friends as someone who genuinely cared about others.

A neighbor was the first to arrive at the scene after one of Sparks’ daughters asked them to check on her when calls went unanswered. Approaching the home, the neighbor heard a smoke alarm and saw black smoke billowing from the front door, according to a report by WPSD. After finding no response, entry was made to the home and Sparks’ body was found inside.

A recent effort has been undertaken by Crime Stoppers to drum up leads in the case. Anyone with information can call state police at 1-800-222-5555.

Turner named president for LCHS FBLA leadership

Livingston Central High School has announced its Future Business Leaders of America officer team for the 2025-26 school year, naming Joshua Turner as president, Avery Zaim as vice president, Sophie Michonski as secretary, Ethan Garner as treasurer, Lilly Whittington as reporter, Emberly Simpkins as historian and Sydney Maupin as parliamentarian.

These student leaders will be responsible for organizing events, promoting business education and preparing their peers for future careers through workshops, competitions and community service projects.

FBLA is the largest student business organization in the world, offering students the chance to develop leadership skills and gain real-world business experience.

Speed limit lowered at I-24 Eddyville exit

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) has reduced the speed limit on a section of U.S. 62 near Interstate 24 Exit 40 in Lyon County. New signs lowering the speed limit from 55 to 45 mph were installed late last week.

The reduced speed zone spans about 1 mile from KY 6011 (Doom Chapel Road) to New Circle Road North. This section includes the underpass at Exit 40, between Kuttawa and Eddyville, where traffic volume is high due to interstate access ramps. The 45 mph limit will be in effect and enforced, said KYTC. Approximately 7,860 vehicles travel this section daily.

Head Start screening will be held on May 30

Chapel Hill Head Start has announced its upcoming preschool screening, scheduled for May 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To be eligible, children must be at least three years old before Aug. 1. Parents and guardians are required to bring a birth certificate, immunization record, insurance card, Social Security card, and proof of income or a SNAP card. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 270-965-1568.



10 YEARS AGO

May 15, 2015

■ Four girls from Tumble Extreme in Marion returned home with championships from the 2015 U.S. Tumbling and Trampoline Association state competition. Brittany Minton, Sissy Collins and Taylor Guess were named state champions in tumbling, while Payton Maness won a title in double-mini trampoline. Additionally, Belle Minton was selected for the Kentucky All-Star Team.

■ Members from three Homemakers clubs met at Crittenden County Health and Rehab Center to plant flowers and trim shrubs. Pictured were Glenda Chandler, Sarah Ford, Darl Henley and Wanda Rudd.

■ Crittenden County School District’s chess team, the Blue Knights, were recognized for a successful season at a board of education meeting. Team members in attendance were Jordan Watts, Wyatt Russell, Evan McDowell, Clay Stevens, Chase Stevens, Gage Russell, Thomas Jackson and Robert Jackson. Also on the squad, but not in attendance, were Cole Foster, Cameron McDaniel, Benny Tucker, Gage Moore, Skyler James, Cole Swinford, Dominic Rorer, Erica Darnell, Hayden Hildebrand, Brooke Winstead, Nai’Zayah Bell and Abbey Swinford. Don Winters was the team coach.

25 YEARS AGO

May 11, 2000

■ After throwing a no-hitter against Trigg County earlier in the season, Lady Rocket sophomore Lyndsey Hall nearly matched that feat again, tossing a one-hitter against Dawson Springs as the visiting Lady Rockets claimed the first game of a doubleheader sweep, 7-0. Hall also fanned nine Lady Panther batters and had a big day at the plate. Patti Johnson and Courtney Rushing added support with two hits apiece.

■ Local residents visited sister city Marion, Ark., during the eighth annual Esperanza Bonanza, a community festival. Marion Mayor Mick Alexander was pictured with event organizers. The Arkansas friends planned to visit the Heritage Days Festival held here in October.

■ Crittenden County Middle School students raised \$1,365.44 for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital through a mathathon. Sixth through eighth graders collected pledges and worked math problems at home and during free time at school. Participants included Kara Hall, Chris Elder, Rebecca Tinsley, Chancey Martin, Drew Hopkins, Jessica Wadsworth, Missy Snyder, Abby Wright, Becky Long, Chelsea Steele, Jennifer Head, Jada Williams, Jesse McDowell and Carrie Nesbitt.

■ Alan Hunt and Phillis Hardin were pictured preparing to open their new store, H&H Supply, in Marion. The shop was designed to meet the plumbing and electrical needs of contractors and do-it-yourselfers.

50 YEARS AGO

May 15, 1975

■ Betty Howard, Regina McClure, Nancy Mitchell and Mabel Campbell displayed crafts as part of National Nursing Home Week.

■ Students at Frances Elementary School were pictured enjoying new playground equipment, including a slide and swing set, purchased by the PTA.

■ Neil Decker, a junior at Campbellsville College, was elected to the cheerleading squad in a student body election. The physical education major and sociology minor was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas K. Decker of Marion.

■ William Allen Travis and Mark McDowell were pictured riding their horses to Sunday morning services at Cave Springs General Baptist Church. Rev. Robert Phillips said there was plenty of hitching room, though most of his congregation preferred the comfort of their automobiles.

■ 4-H members Tracy Hunt, Robbie Kirk, Danny Starrick and Kelly McMackin spent a Saturday morning replanting decorative flower boxes on the city’s main streets, representing the Mattoon Shamrock 4-H Club.

Swim team registering for season

Marion Country Club Stingrays swim team invites interested swimmers and families to attend an informational meeting at 6 p.m., Thursday, May 29 at Marion Country Club.

This event is open to anyone interested in learning more about joining the Stingrays swim team. Attendees will receive full details on registration, practice schedules, meet dates and more. Swimmers will have the opportunity to try on team swimsuits, ask

questions, and complete swim assessments.

There is no age requirement to participate, but swimmers must be able to swim the short length of the pool unassisted to be eligible for the team.

The team will practice three days a week and compete around the region. There are no required pool fees to participate this year. There is a \$30 Stingrays registration fee.

For more info, text Kim Vince at 270-704-1446.

Crittenden Press

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U.S. 60 east of Marion.*

Mother’s Day born in violence

The transition of many of our national holidays from their painful beginnings to days of celebration is interesting. It is not that we cannot be rejoicing and sorrowful at the same time. Today, May 8, is an example. Eighty years ago today, celebration broke out as the Allies accepted the surrender of Germany in Europe. Tears of joy and loss were shed as the nightmare was over, but many who made its end possible had given their lives for the cause. What happens over time is the pain diminishes and is sometimes completely washed away as generations are born who have not been directly affected.

Last Sunday in the United States and most of the Christian world celebrated Mother's Day. There are many countries that celebrate at different times. Notably the United Kingdom, which celebrates Mothering Sunday on the fourth Sunday of Lent each year. The origins of this worldwide holiday in honor of mothers are as varied as the nations in which it is celebrated.

In the United Kingdom, "Mothering Sunday" has roots as far back as the 15th or 16th century. It was a day when the chil-



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

dren of poor families who had been sent away from home to serve the gentry were allowed a day off to visit the church where they were baptized. It was also a time for them to visit their mothers. On their way home they were allowed to pick flowers as a gift. It was a day to celebrate, but it was only a day – then it was back into service.

The tradition in the United States likely has its roots in the years immediately following the Civil War. Women played a major role in sanitation (such as it existed) during the war and worked for the well-being of both Union and Confederate soldiers. In West Virginia this effort was led by Ann Jarvis. Her obituary in the Pittsburgh Press, May 11, 1905, includes, "In the Civil War period she was noted for her many kindnesses to officers and soldiers who were encamped in the section of West Virginia where she then lived." After the war she worked to establish friendship days to reunite families that had been torn apart by the conflict.

Much credit for Mother's Day also goes to the writer of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 she wrote,

"An appeal to Womanhood Throughout the World" in protest of the Civil War and war everywhere. It can be found in numerous daily newspapers of that time. I found it in the Sept. 20, 1870, edition of The Chicago Tribune. The headline is "Putting Down Murder."

Here are some highlights:

"In this day of progress, in this century of light, the emulation of rulers has been allowed to barter the dear interests of domestic life for the bloody exchanges of the battle-field. Thus men have done, thus men will do.

"But women need no longer be made a party to proceedings which fill the globe with grief and horror. The mother has something to say to the sons who owe their life to her suffering.

"Arise then, Christian women throughout the land! Arise, all women who have hearts, whether your baptism be of water or tears! "Say firmly: 'We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies.'

"Our husbands shall not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause. Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have taught them of charity, mercy and patience.

"We women of one country will be too tender of those of another to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs.

"From the bosom of the devastated earth, a voice

goes up with our own. It says, 'Disarm, disarm' The sword of murder is not the balance of justice. Blood does not wipe out dishonor, nor does violence indicate possession.

"As men have often forsaken the plow and the anvil at the summons of war, let women now leave all that may be left of home for a great and earnest day of counsel.

"Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead. Let them solemnly take counsel with each other as to the means whereby the great human family can live in peace, each bearing after his own time the sacred impress, not of Caesar but of God.

"In the name of womanhood and of humanity, I earnestly ask that a general congress of women without limit of nationality may be appointed and held at some place deemed most convenient and at the earliest period consistent with its objects, to promote the alliance of the different nationalities, the amicable settlement of international questions and the great and general interests of peace."

Her appeal is as relevant today as it was then. If only we would listen and do this as well as give her flowers.

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.

THE Davis FAMILY

Homecoming
GlendaleGeneral BaptistChurch
May 18
1:30pm
1774 SR 2123
Marion, KY

LOVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

will hold its
Annual Meeting
2 p.m.,
Saturday, May 17
Please make plans to attend.

Donations can be made to Love Cemetery Association at Farmers Bank

Freedom
General Baptist Church
87 Freedom Church Rd., Marion

HOMECOMING
Sunday, May 18
Meal will follow worship service
Singing after meal
Churches are invited to Come Sing
Come worship with us!
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Church Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6 p.m.

When you worship God, your life will soar

Question: I go to work daily, and I come home to eat and watch some sports on TV. I've been doing this same daily routine for years. Tomorrow I will do the same. My daily routine has become tiring and boring. Where is the energy and the meaning I thought I would experience in life?

Answer: Let me cut to the chase. You've left God out of your life! And consequently, your life has become meaningless. What

ASK the PASTOR

By Bob Hardison

you want in life and sports have become your idols.

Only God is worthy of our worship. Isaiah, the prophet, spoke truth, "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary,

and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak" (40:28, 29).

God stepped into our lives by becoming our Emanuel, "God with us" (Mt. 1:23). He gives us His presence and His love. As our heavenly Father, He initiates forgiveness of sins and closeness with Him. Through turning from our sins and putting our faith in Jesus, we can experience an abundant life

here and now and eternal life with Him forever.

When you love and worship God, He gives you His strength and energy to live a triumphant life. As a child of God, you can worship and glorify God in your daily activities. Through worshipping Him daily you can run. You can work hard. You can play hard. You can soar!

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

WORSHIP

with us this week

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH

315 Emmaus Church Rd., Salem, Ky.
Rodney Phelps, Pastor
(270) 704-2400
emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com
Follow us on Facebook

St. William Catholic Church

Sunday Mass 11 a.m. 860 S. Main St. Marion, Ky. (270) 965-2477
Father Jojo 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. "Whatever It Takes" Bro. Jamie Baker
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297
Phone: (270) 965-2220

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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

Tolu Methodist Church

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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

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

Freedom General Baptist Church

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

Marion Baptist Church

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holleman
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.

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 -

PINEY FORK

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

Sugar Grove

Cumberland Presbyterian
585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky.
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.

Teachers gave souvenir cards to students

Starting in the last decade of the 19th Century and continuing almost as long as the old one-room school houses existed, many teachers, if they had the means, gave little souvenir cards to their students at the end of the school year. You will notice that these are one-room schools, so the list is for the all the students and not just the graduating eighth grade class.

Also given at Christmas time was a Christmas Souvenir Greeting card with the teacher's picture and a list of the students.

Sometimes these treasured little cards show up in unexpected places, such as in your family's old box of photos, tucked away unnoticed in a drawer or maybe at a sale or auction. They are part of the history of our one-room schools and, if fortunate enough to have a picture of the teacher on it, perhaps never seen before by the family, it is indeed a treasure.

Here are three of those cards and a little history of the schools and communities where they were located.

Applegate School

The first school building, built about 1879-80 was made of logs, and was located on a ridge near the old Marion-Morganfield Road near Rosebud. In 1881 there was an enrollment of 21 students and Sophronia Nunn was the teacher. The name of the school was taken from a coal mine located nearby, Applegate Mines, and was owned by Mr. Applegate who lived in Union County.

In 1915 Miss Mae Drury was teacher. The school term started around the first of September and continued through February. She had 39 pupils. Classes began at 8 a.m., and dismissed about 4 p.m. The day was divided by an hour-long lunch break and two 15-minute recesses – one at mid morning and another at mid-afternoon. During those recesses, the students and often their teacher participated in a variety of games. Some of the favorites were town ball, tag, drop-the-handkerchief, washer pitching and go-around-the mulberry-bush.

Teachers maintained a strict discipline. Unruly students also sometimes had to stand at the board with their nose in a chalk circle.

The last school building, and the one that most of us know as Applegate, was located from Marion about 11 miles on US 60 East past the Rosebud curves on the late Glenn Tosh property.

The school was discontinued in 1929 as several of the one-room

schools in this area were closed and consolidated with the new modern five-room building built at Mattoon.

The old Applegate School building is still standing today but is in very bad condition, as will happen when unoccupied for a long period of time.

Lone Star School

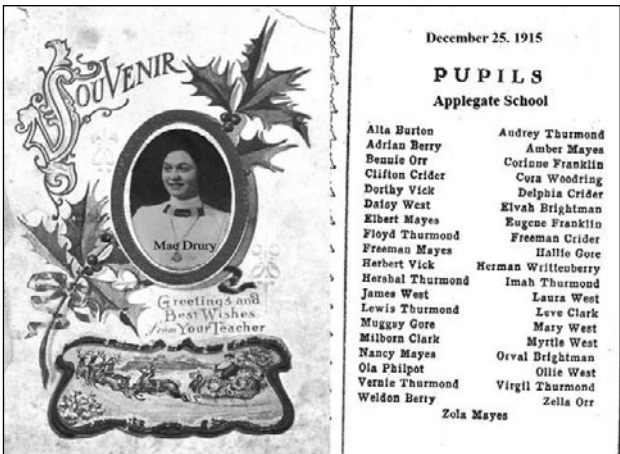
One of our county schools that wasn't mentioned much in the old Presses was the Lone Star School. The news and happenings at the rural school weren't shared much with The Press, so happenings and activities at the school are hard to find.

But it was very much an active school. It was located about half way between Crayne Cemetery Road and State Route 1107, on what today is named Lone Star Road. The road used to be named Butler Road, but sometime in the 1980s it was appropriately renamed Lone Star Road. Today, all that is left as a reminder of the school is an old iron hand pump that the school children used to pump their drinking water.

The school was in operation by the late 1880s, and in the year 1903 there were 77 students on the school census for Lone Star School.

In 1923, in the Crittenden County School News, Nov. 22, 1923, Lone Star school had an ad telling that there would be a Pie Supper and Musical at the school house on Saturday night. "Everybody come out for you will be assured an enjoyable time," it stated. These community socials were anticipated event by children and adults alike. I'm sure the old school house was packed from wall to wall.

In the years 1947-1951, Clara Mae Woodall was the teacher. Woodall was a student at the school, and after furthering her education, she returned to be a teacher there for four years. She recalled the one-room school was normal for the time. All eight grades were together in the one-



Teacher Mae Drury presented her souvenir card as a gift to her students for Christmas in 1915.

room school with two entrance doors at the front, one for the boys and one for the girls. There was an outdoor toilet for the girls and one for the boys.

The school closed in 1958. After the school was closed, the building was bought by James Woodall and was torn down and he used the lumber for other things. The old iron hand pump the school children used to pump their drinking water used to be standing in the field not too far from the road. You could see it during the months that the crops had been harvested.

Piney Fork School

At the center of the community was the Piney Fork School. The Piney Fork school was a one room, weather-board structure located across the road from the church. It was built in 1893 by a local farmer who was also a school teacher and a fair carpenter, Mr. Hice Phillips. Mr. Phillips felt the children had too great a distance to walk to any of the surrounding schools. He, with the support of parents, built the school house, and he was also the teacher.

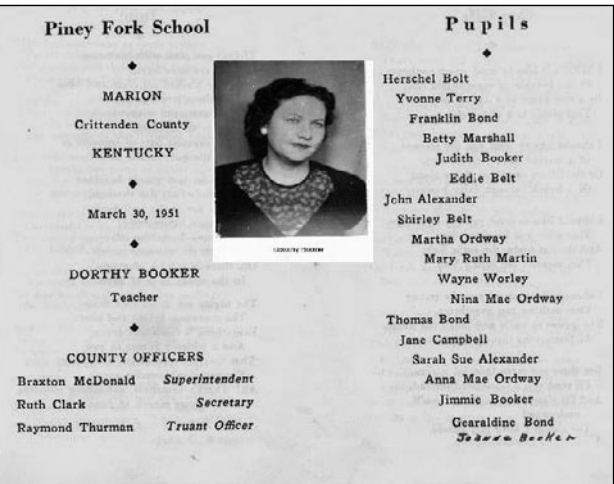
All eight grades were taught by one teacher, with reading, writing and arithmetic the basics taught. All community activities centered around the school. Pie suppers, spelling bees, 4-H meetings and Christmas parties were typical of the activities at the School.

Sept. 9, 1933 – Piney Fork School News

Thirty-six pupils are enrolled in the Piney Fork School this year. Practically all of them are attending every day and are showing great interest in their school work. More than 20 have perfect attendance records for the first two months of school. Several projects are being carried out in the various grades with special emphasis being placed



Nona Gass, teacher at Lone Star School in 1920, presented this decorative memory card to her students.



Dorothy Booker presented this memory souvenir card to her Piney Fork students in 1951.

remembered by many. It was a sad day for a lot of families when this happened. Many fond memories will be remembered of these times attending the country schools. The old school building today is still there but covered by a barn and in good condition under its cover of the barn.

These words are so true from the poem "The Little White School House," by Ellis Ford

Hartford. "Thankful may you be if it was yours to go to a country school. For those who have known it, it has incomparable value."

(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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Dycusburg Cemetery

FISH FRY



Sunday, May 18 • 1 p.m.

at the

Dycusburg Methodist Church grounds

Please bring chairs and a covered dish

Donations for the cemetery can be mailed to
Faye Stinnett
202 Stinnett Rd.
Fredonia, KY 42411

In case of bad weather, it will be at the
Dycusburg Baptist Fellowship building.

NOTICE

New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC is filing an application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("PSC") to construct a new wireless communications facility on a site located at 3600 U.S. Highway 60 W, Marion KY 42064 (37° 18' 56.303009" North latitude, 88° 08' 11.385182 West longitude). You may contact the PSC for additional information concerning this matter at: Kentucky Public Service Commission, Executive Director, 211 Sower Boulevard, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602. Please refer to docket number 2025-00141 in any correspondence sent in connection with this matter.



Crittenden County
Class of 1973

Mark your calendars for

Saturday, July 19

at 4 p.m. • Meal at 5 p.m.

at The Riding Club in Marion

Meat will be provided.

Bring a dish & dessert.

Call or text Mike Sutton (270) 836-7845
or James Penn (270) 704-1672.

Share with other classmates.

Classifieds The Crittenden Press

The Crittenden Press

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Moving sale/Yard sale, from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Saturday, May 17 at 503 S. Willow Way in Kuttawa. Twin beds, dresser, chest of drawers, small kitchen table, couch, boy clothes, women clothes, coolers, kitchen items, Christmas décor, much more. (1t-19-p)

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notices

Donations for the upkeep of Old Mt. Zion Cemetery may be sent to: Old Mt. Zion Cemetery may be sent to: Old Mt. Zion Cemetery, % Colleen Harbour, 246 Cotton Patch Rd., Marion, KY 42064. (1t-19-p)

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legal notice

PUBLIC NOTICE: Under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (Public Law 88-578), citizens are afforded the opportunity to express their views concerning the recreational needs of their community. To provide a forum for discussion, the Crittenden County Fiscal Court will be hosting an open meeting on: Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 5 p.m. The location is Fohs Hall, 201 North Walker St., Marion KY 42064. The specific purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Fohs Hall Rotunda Project, under application for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant assistance.

Fohs Hall Inc., a community non-profit, is seeking funding to construct a new pavilion as part of a larger planned outdoor event and recreation space on a vacant 3-acre lot at 130 N. Walker St. in Marion, directly across from the historic Fohs Hall, a National Register-listed community event center. The pavilion will provide shelter for outdoor events and daily use by the community at large. Preliminary design is complete, with construction set to begin immediately upon the availability of grant funding, anticipated near the start of FY 2026-27.

Outdoor event/recreation and public park space are currently limited in Marion's immediate downtown area. The development of this site will provide community members with easy, walkable access to outdoor recreation, green-space and will offer a new outdoor venue for community-oriented events. To accomplish these improvements, the county is applying for up to \$250,000 in Land and Water Conservation Fund grant assistance, representing 50 percent of the total estimated project cost of \$500,000.

The public is invited to review and voice their opinion on the proposed activities and potential impacts of the project. Anyone wishing to support or oppose the proposed project can also submit written comments to Crittenden County Fiscal Court, 200 Industrial Drive, Suite A, Marion KY 42064, by 4:00 p.m. Monday, May 26, 2025. (2t-19-c) (CC)

bid notice

The Crittenden County Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for the following lots:
Lot 1: 5 tables with sewing grid on top from Family Consumer Science Class -5.5 feet x 3.4 feet;
Lot 2: 2 tables from Family Consumer Science Class with metal legs – 5.5 feet x. 3.4 feet;
Lot 3: Dewalt 12' Sliding Compound Miter Saw Model: DW708 (handle cracked)
Sealed bids must be submitted to CCBOE at 601 West Elm Street, Marion, Kentucky 42064, by Friday, May 16, 2025 at 1:00

p.m. at which time they will be opened. Sealed bids must include the lot number(s) for which you are bidding. For more information, contact Brian Kirby at 270-704-1166.

Crittenden County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids. (1t-18-c)

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Kentucky Public Service Commission will hold a hearing on, Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 9:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time (8:00 AM Central Daylight Time), in the cases of, In the Matter of: An Electronic Examination of the Application of the Fuel Adjustment Clause of Big Rivers Electric Corporation from November 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023 - Case No. 2024-00141 and In the Matter of: An Electronic Examination of the Application of the Fuel Adjustment Clause of Big Rivers Electric Corporation from May 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023 - Case No. 2024-00149, for the purpose of cross-examination of witnesses. The hearing will be held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room (Hearing Room 1) of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky. This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, www.psc.ky.gov. Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listed on the PSC website, www.psc.ky.gov.

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Two men sentenced in separate sexual abuse cases

STAFF REPORT

A Marion man pleaded guilty last week to a negotiated Class D felony charge of first-degree sexual abuse and a misdemeanor charge of first-offense distribution of obscene material to a minor. Jonathan Richard Luis Kentfield, 41, was originally charged with a Class C felony for procurement or promotion of a minor involving sexual or other prohibited activities (electronic means).

Based on a plea agreement reached between the state, defendant and the victim's family, Circuit Judge Daniel Heady on Thursday sentenced Kentfield to one year on the felony charge and 90 days on the misdemeanor, with time to run concurrently for a one-year term. Kentfield will also be a 20-year registrant on the Sex Offender Registry and must complete required treatment as a sex offender.

The victim's grandmother provided a victim impact statement, telling the court that because of the crime committed against her granddaughter, the girl became withdrawn, lost trust in men and struggled to go out in public. The grandmother said one year is a small price to pay for the childhood

innocence that was lost.

Kentfield also addressed the court, apologizing for the effects of the crime on the victim and family.

Charges were originally brought by Kentucky State Police following an investigation into the August 2023 incident.

- Vernon Yoder, 38, of Marion, pleaded guilty and was sentenced on two felony counts of first-degree sexual abuse and misdemeanor first-degree indecent exposure. Court records say the defendant on two occasions in November 2022 subjected separate juvenile victims to sexual contact and also exposed his genitals to a third alleged victim under the age of 18. Based on a negotiated plea agreement, Judge Heady sentenced Yoder to one year in prison on the felony and 90 days on the misdemeanor, with the time to run concurrently. Yoder will be required to complete sex offender treatment and register as a sex offender for life.
- Haley Elizabeth Gable, 21, of Marion, pleaded guilty to felony charges of trafficking in a controlled substance and trafficking in marijuana, and a misdemeanor charge of pos-

CRITTENDEN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

session of drug paraphernalia. She was sentenced to three years on the first charge, five on the second and 365 days on the third, with all time to run concurrently for a five-year sentence. She was given probation for five years.

Court records indicate that Crittenden County deputies went to a residence in Marion in October to serve civil court documents and smelled burned marijuana. Upon further investigation, marijuana and mushrooms were found in the home. The complaint also states that Gable's smartphone produced evidence of drug trafficking.

- Jason Rushing, 43, of Marion, pleaded guilty to felony first-degree, second-offense possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. He was sentenced to one year on the felony and 365 days on the lesser charge and was granted credit for time served, which was seven months.
- Jerry David Rodney Jr., 35, of Clay, had his felony charge of first-degree, second-offense possession of a controlled sub-

stance (methamphetamine) dismissed because the state laboratory identified a substance found in his possession last October as something other than a controlled substance. Rodney did, however, plead guilty to misdemeanor charges of prescription medication not in original container, third-degree possession of a controlled substance, first-offense operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, operating on a suspended or revoked license and traffic violations. He received a two-year probated sentence.

- Daniel Hopkins, 23, of Rosiclare, Ill., pleaded guilty to a felony charge of first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and misdemeanor charges of second-offense operating a vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving on a DUI-suspended license and leaving the scene of an accident. The court imposed a one-year sentence for the felony and lesser time for the other offenses, with all of it to run concurrently, but con-

secutive to another sentence he's currently serving in another conviction.

- Alexandria Jimenez, 41, of Marion, pleaded guilty to two felony drug charges for trafficking in a controlled substance (fentanyl). She was sentenced to five years, with the term to run concurrently with any other time associated with another case still pending in circuit court for possession of a controlled substance (hydrocodone), a Class D felony, and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. That case is scheduled for a hearing in June.
- Adam P. Attia, 36, of Marion, was ordered to complete Drug Court as a condition of his felony probation revocation. Attia was on probation from a 2017 felony theft conviction. His probation was revoked after Attia was arrested on drug and other charges in Lyon County.
- Jonathan Haynes, 45, of Williamsburg, Ky., was sanctioned for violating his felony probation on a 2023 conviction for promoting contraband in the local jail. Haynes was ordered into a six-month, in-house substance abuse program.

Grand jury hands down indictments in 3 cases

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Grand Jury last week handed down felony indictments in three cases and heard two others where sealed indictments were issued.

A grand jury does not determine guilt or innocence. It merely decides whether enough evidence exists to continue prosecution of a case in circuit court.

The following individuals were indicted.

- Lance Mathews, 43, of Marion was indicted on charges of public intoxication (excluding alcohol), felony first-degree possession of a controlled substance (second offense), possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to notify the Department of Transportation of an address change.

According to the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department, deputies received multiple reports around 9 p.m., on April 21 of a man acting erratically, including walking up to houses along Ky 70, approaching people aggressively and appearing disoriented. When officers located Lane, he exhibited signs of intoxication, and a search revealed drug paraphernalia in his possession and alleged methamphetamine residue.

- Melanie K. Ford, 61, of Eddyville,

CRITTENDEN Grand Jury

was indicted for felony drug possession. Ford is charged with first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), third or subsequent offense. The charge stems from an incident on or about Jan. 1 when Ford is alleged to have knowingly and unlawfully possessed methamphetamine. The grand jury's findings were based on testimony from Marion Police Officer Cory Golightly.

- Jeffery Marshall Gernigin, 34, of Marion was indicted on a superseding charge of being a persistent felony offender, added to a case in which he's already indicted for and flagrant non-support. According to the indictment, Gernigin is accused of persistently failing to provide financial support for his minor child or children, despite having the ability to do so. Child support arrears dating back to at least May 15, 2019 amount to obligations of \$5,784.78. The PFO enhancement could significantly increase potential penalties if the defendant is convicted. The indictment cites prior felony convictions in Caldwell and Crittenden counties.

CHURCH

Continued from page 1

have left the denomination, many of them in the South.

The complaint seeks a declaratory judgment confirming that the property in question remains held in trust for the UMC, as well as monetary damages for the alleged breach of contract and unjust enrichment. It further seeks to prevent Marion Methodist from asserting ownership rights that conflict with the Conference's interest in the property.

The defendants have not yet filed a formal response to the allegations, and a hearing date has not been set. The case highlights the broader struggles facing the UMC as it navigates internal divisions over doctrine and governance.

A similar case has been filed in Oldham County, where the Kentucky Annual Conference brought legal action against Saint John Community Church, Inc., a congrega-

tion that also sought to break away from the UMC following recent doctrinal changes. That lawsuit, filed in March 2025, alleges similar claims of unjust enrichment, breach of contract, and conversion. It asserts that Saint John, like Marion Methodist, attempted to amend its governing documents and transfer property without proper authorization, prompting the Conference to seek a declaratory judgment affirming that the property remains held in trust for the denomination. The case is ongoing, with a court date yet to be set.

SALE

Continued from page 1

also allows CCEDC to continue reducing the debt associated with the initial purchase of this property through the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA)."

The industrial park property, formerly the site of a Tyson Foods chicken broiler operation, was purchased by the economic development group in 2005. Since then, it has been parceled off to four other buyers: the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for a maintenance facility, the City of Marion for a wastewater treatment plant, and two private owners – one for a residence and the other for hunting property.

The CCEDC said in its statement that "this tract was sold for \$5,500 per developable acre. After this sale, over 9 acres of developable property (currently surveyed as two tracts) remains in the industrial park."

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom expressed his gratitude for the transaction.

"As Crittenden County judge-executive, I want to take this opportunity to thank our economic development partners for their work in facilitating a recent sale of property in the North Industrial Park. I also thank Kent and Mindy Withrow for purchasing the property and committing to the continued growth and improvement of our community. On behalf of all our community, I look forward to seeing the development of an industrial concern as planned for the property as quickly as possible," Newcom said.

"Our commitment extends beyond the scope of construction. We

are dedicated to revitalizing and growing the community. Our primary goal for this property is to generate sustainable economic development within Marion, whether by partnering with a business looking to establish a presence here or by developing a new enterprise ourselves that directly supports the construction industry," Withrow said in the CCEDC's news release.

"My wife and I have lived in Marion for over 20 years, and throughout that time, we've continually reinvested our income back into this community. Our roots are here, and so is our heart. We believe in Marion's potential and have made it our mission to contribute to its future through meaningful, community-focused projects," Withrow continued. "We have transformed the once-vacant Conrad's Grocery building into Marion and Company. In addition, we've reopened Crittenden County Collision after its closure."

Withrow said his investments have "demonstrated our commitment to Marion, and we fully intend to continue building a stronger, more vibrant community."

Garrett Clark, executive director of the Lake Barkley Partnership – which works closely with the CCEDC to foster economic development efforts for Crittenden, Caldwell, Livingston and Lyon counties – added: "The sale of this tract in the Industrial Park North helps to give our community the potential for a business attraction, creation, or expansion that will help generate job opportunities and investment for the Crittenden County community."

Withrow is due in court next week to face criminal charges al-

leging that he falsely reported being assaulted by County Attorney Bart Frazer during an incident in December after a fiscal court meeting. Kentucky State Police have charged him, citing video surveillance that contradicts Withrow's report of the incident.

In addition to a misdemeanor charge of falsely reporting the incident, Withrow faces other charges of harassment, harassing communications and criminal coercion linked to alleged behavior and social media activity. A pretrial conference in that case was set for Wednesday in district court.

Two individuals have also filed protective orders against him, with hearings set for next month.

These developments follow an earlier failed lawsuit Withrow had filed against the county after another of his businesses, Allied Contracting Group, lost a public roofing bid. Courts sided with the county, citing no wrongdoing in awarding the contract to a bidder nearly \$360,000 lower than Allied's proposal.

Withrow has an active civil lawsuit in Crittenden Circuit Court, claiming Crittenden County's judge-executive violated the Kentucky Open Records Act by failing to fully and promptly respond to his request for surveillance footage from county buildings after the December incident. That case was supposed to have been heard in circuit court last week, but was postponed. An alternative hearing date has not been set.

Additionally, a verbal altercation outside a city council meeting in February has led to a separate harassment charge against another man, Craig Gilland, based on a complaint filed by Withrow.

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NEW! Livingston County, KY – 147.7043 - \$565,000
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REDUCED! Crittenden County, KY – 19.6 Acres - \$82,124
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
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 – 70 Acres - \$244,900
Located less than a mile from the Ohio River, this exceptional hunting property offers a diverse blend of habitat types, making it ideal for deer, turkey, and waterfowl hunting.

Crittenden County, KY – 80.92 Acres - \$307,500
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!

Crittenden County, KY - 115.86 Acres - \$446,000
Nestled in an area renowned for its big bucks, this diverse hunting tract offers an idyllic setting for both deer and turkey enthusiasts. Includes 31+/- acres of open ground throughout.

Crittenden & Union Counties, KY – 4,690 Acres – OFFERED IN MULTIPLE TRACTS – CONTACT AGENT!
With various landscapes, fantastic habitat variations, proven history, and multiple lodges with various improvements, this is your chance at a once in a lifetime opportunity! A part of this listing is under contract – contact agent.

Livingston County, KY – 88 Acres - \$303,600
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Livingston County, KY – 161 Acres - \$575,575
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
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 – 193 Acres - \$799,000
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!

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 18.96 Acres - \$375,000
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.

SOLD! 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!

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY - 71.46 Acres - \$232,250
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.



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SportsShorts

SCHEDULE

Upcoming events

Crittenden County | Livingston Central
THURSDAY, MAY 15
LCHS softball at McCracken County
CCHS softball at Union County
CCHS baseball at Fort Campbell
LCHS baseball hosts Tilghman

FRIDAY, MAY 16
CCHS softball at Hopkins Central
CCHS baseball hosts Caldwell Co.

SATURDAY, MAY 17
CCHS softball hosts Ballard Memorial
CCHS baseball hosts Madisonville
Track and field regional at Murray

5th District Tournaments

BASEBALL AT EDDYVILLE

Monday's semifinal round
Lyon Co. vs Livingston Central, 5:30pm
Crittenden Co. vs Trigg County, 7pm

Tuesday's final round
Championship game, 6pm

SOFTBALL AT EDDYVILLE

Monday's semifinal round
Crittenden vs Livingston Central, 5:30pm
Lyon County vs Trigg County, 7pm

Tuesday's final round
Championship game, 6pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Running, off-road event

Here are a couple of events coming up this weekend in Crittenden County.

- Livingston Hospital Foundation 5K and 1-mile run, Saturday, May 17 at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the race starts at 9 a.m. For more information, call or text 270-704-1360.
- Outlaw Off-Road Racing at the Sugar Creek facility off Sugar Grove Church Road May 16-18. Gates open at 8 a.m., daily, with racing starting Saturday at 10 a.m.

FOOTBALL

Rocket Youth Camp

The Crittenden County Rocket Youth Football Camp will be held June 16-18 at Rocket Arena for ages 5-15. The camp, running from 9-11:30 a.m. each day, costs \$30 per participant, with a \$10 discount for additional siblings. Instruction will cover all areas of football, led by Rocket coaching staff, current players and alumni. Campers will participate in flag football games daily, and lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m. in the multipurpose room. Registration will be accepted on the first day of camp starting at 8:30 a.m., or in advance by returning forms to a coach or school office before the last day of school. Each camper will receive a T-shirt.

OUTDOORS

Hunting Seasons

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

Bullfrog	May 16 - Oct. 31
Squirrel	May 17 - June 15
Coyote	Year Round
Ground hog	Year Round

Turkey harvest review

Crittenden County's spring 2025 turkey harvest was down from the previous two years, but Livingston's take was up slightly from 2024 and remains steady after some lean years from 2017 to 2022. Crittenden figures remain puzzling following a bounceback year in 2023.

CRITTENDEN Harvest Figures		LIVINGSTON 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
2025	350	2025	318

Spring Sports | Weekly Roundup

CCHS SOFTBALL

Girls complete sweep of Webster

The Lady Rockets torpedoeed Webster County 12-5 on the road Tuesday, sweeping the Lady Trojans in two games this season.

CCHS got three hits from Anna Boone and two apiece from Elliot Evans, Andrea Federico and Brodi Rich. Federico homered for the fourth time this season. Rich pitched a complete game, allowing just one earned run, walking none and striking out four as the Rocket girls improved to 10-15.improved to 10-15.

Errors cost Rocket girls vs Madisonville

Crittenden County fell 9-4 at home to Madisonville Saturday, despite an excellent pitching performance from eighth-grader Brodi Rich. She threw a complete game allowing just two earned runs while striking out seven and walking one. A collapse of the CCHS defense, which committed eight errors, helped wipe out Rich's otherwise remarkable performance against one of the region's premier hitting teams.

Offensively for CCHS, Andrea Federico went 4-for-4 with a home run and two RBIs. It was Federico's third homer of the season. Hannah Jent added a double, a single and two runs scored.

Crittenden run-rules Murray on the road

The Lady Rockets powered past Murray 12-2 Friday, backed by a balanced offensive attack and strong pitching from Anna Boone. Boone went 3-for-5 at the plate with a double, two runs scored, and two RBIs, while also earning the win in the circle. She allowed two runs on four hits over five innings, striking out seven and walking two. Brodi Rich had a standout day, going 3-for-3 with a double, three RBIs and a run scored. Morgan Piper contributed with a 1-for-1 performance, driving in a run and scoring twice.

Crittenden falls by nine to Lyon County

Crittenden County's Lady Rockets fell 13-4 to Lyon County on last Thursday in a game that decided third place in the district standings. Andrea Federico went 3-for-3 with a run scored for CCHS and Anna Boone added a 3-for-3 effort with a double, two runs and an RBI. The game was originally set to be played at Marion, but an afternoon thunderstorm forced a change of venue and it was played in Eddyville. In the circle for Crittenden, Boone and Elliot Evans combined for 7 innings, allowing 13 runs on 13 hits. Boone struck out four and walked two in 3.1 innings, while starter Evans took the loss, giving up nine hits and seven earned runs over 3.2 innings, striking out three. The Lady Rockets finished winless in the district this season.

ROCKET BASEBALL

Rockets fall 6-2 at home to Webster

Quinn Summers went 3-for-4 at the plate, but Crittenden County fell 6-2 at home Tuesday to Webster County.

The Rockets got two hits and an RBI from Chase Conyer, while Hudson Stokes added the only other hit for CCHS. Asa McCord pitched 5.1 innings and allowed six runs, though only two were earned as the Rockets committed six errors in the matchup. Crittenden dropped to 9-15 on the season.

Rockets wipe out CCA in Saturday DH

Crittenden County wiped out Community Christian 12-5 in the nightcap of a Saturday doubleheader on the road, fueled by a strong offensive effort and solid pitching. Jake Rich led the way at the plate, going 4-for-4 with three RBIs and a run scored while Chase Conyer went 4-for-4 with two RBIs and two runs.

Hudson Stokes earned the win on the



PHOTOS BY GRACIE ORR



Crittenden County infielder Hudson Stokes (above) at-tempts to chase down a Lyon County base runner and Lady Rocket catcher Elle McDaniel makes the tag on a Lyon County runner during Fifth District action last week.

Second Region Standings HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

	W	L
Henderson County	27	6
Livingston Central	22	5
Madisonville	21	9
Trigg County	19	10
Lyon County	13	14
Christian County	17	12
Union County	17	14
Caldwell County	14	13
Webster County	13	14
Crittenden County	10	15
Fort Campbell	7	8
Hopkins Central	8	24
Heritage Christian	5	6
University Heights	4	6
Dawson Springs	1	15

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

	W	L
Caldwell County	18	4
Lyon County	15	7
University Heights	14	9
Christian County	14	12
Madisonville	17	11
Webster County	15	12
Hopkinsville	12	12
Trigg County	11	10
Union County	11	16
Henderson County	9	13
Crittenden County	9	15
Livingston Central	8	18
Hopkins County Central	7	19
Heritage Christian	7	15
Fort Campbell	3	16

- Results complete through May 12

mound, allowing three runs on five hits over 3.1 innings, striking out four and walking three. Rich closed out the game, pitching the final 3.2 innings with two runs allowed on four hits, striking out four.

Ballard Memorial wins in last at bat

Crittenden County lost in the bottom of the seventh 3-2 to Ballard Memorial in the opener of a Saturday triangle at LaCenter

Martinez second, third in two distance races

— AREA 1 MEET —

Here are results from Crittenden and Livingston athletes at Saturday's Area 1 Championships in Henderson.

Crittenden Girls

100 Meters – 21. Kaylin Coleman (15.42), 29. Hayley Moore (16.30)
200 Meters – 17. Shelbi Belt (30.84), 18. Kaylin Coleman (31.92)
400 Meters – 16. Shelbi Belt (1:10.34)
1600 Meters – 2. Mary Martinez (5:48.92)
3200 Meters – 3. Mary Martinez (12:52.02)
100 Meter Hurdles – 9. Aliza Maraman (22.27)
300 Meter Hurdles – 11. Aliza Maraman (1:02.73)
4x200 Meter Relay – 8. Relay Team (2:03.70)
4x400 Meter Relay – 6. Relay Team (4:48.34)

Crittenden Boys

100 Meters – 21. Junior Cowsert (12.52)
400 Meters – 14. Gaige Markham (57.37), 19. Noah Byford (1:00.04)
800 Meters – 16. Matthew Valentine (2:33.41)
1600 Meters – 9. River Rogers (5:12.65), 15. Noah Martinez (5:29.53)
3200 Meters – 9. Noah Martinez (12:15.57)
4x100 Meter Relay – 13. Relay Team (50.23)
4x200 Meter Relay – 11. Relay Team (1:45.78)

Livingston Boys

100 Meters 9. Talon Sanchez (11.78)
200 Meters 12. Talon Sanchez (25.57)
110 Meter Hurdles 1. Talon Sanchez (15.48)
300 Meter Hurdles 2. Talon Sanchez (40.99)



Regional Contender Watch List

Crittenden County's track and field team is heading to Murray this weekend for the First Region Track and Field meet. A handful of Rocket athletes are likely to earn a berth in the state Class A meet, including senior Mary Martinez. She has been perhaps the most consistent performer this spring. Martinez runs distance races, excelling in the 1600 and 3200 meters. Ella Geary, who recently set a school record, is a strong contender to advance past regionals in long jump. Among other potential state-meet qualifiers are Presley Potter in high jump, the girls' 4x400 relay team (Shelbi Belt, Potter, Martinez and Geary) and distance runner River Rogers. Pictured above is CCHS discus thrower Aiden Musser at last weekend's meet.





Crittenden County Public Library's Youth Librarian Tabby Tinsley leads a program at Crittenden County Elementary School aimed at teaching youngers financial literacy.

Students cashing in on library money program

BY GRACIE ORR
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

Crittenden County Elementary School (CCES) has partnered with the Crittenden County Public Library (CCPL) to bring financial literacy education to second-grade students through the Thinking Money for Kids program. This initiative, funded by a grant secured by the public library, aims to teach young learners the fundamentals of earning, spending and saving money.

CCES Librarian Mary Winders and CCPL Youth Librarian Tabby Tinsley are leading the program, which uses interactive activities and hands-on lessons to make financial concepts more accessible and engaging for children. The program, which was launched to

support both classroom and community learning, emphasizes critical skills like reading, writing, problem-solving and decision-making.

Thinking Money for Kids incorporates games and real-world scenarios to transform what might seem like dry topics into engaging lessons. For instance, students might learn about financial choices through activities involving animals or even running a small farm, making money management less abstract and more relatable.

In addition to financial lessons, the program also supports broader educational goals, encouraging critical thinking, empathy, and social awareness. Winders has worked to align the curriculum with library and

classroom standards, creating a seamless integration of financial literacy and academic growth.

CCPL was selected as one of only 200 libraries nationwide to receive this grant, which provides educational kits that the library can keep if all guidelines are met. The grant is expected to continue through December, offering ongoing opportunities for financial education and literacy growth for local students.

By building these connections between the library and the elementary school, the program encourages students to seek learning opportunities beyond the classroom, fostering a community-wide culture of lifelong education, Tinsley said.



In recent 8-under soccer action at Marion-Crittenden County Park, Charley Hardin was first to a loose ball. Also pictured are (from left) Tatelynn Kitchens, Presley Snyder, Charlestyn Driver, Stella Cochran, (Hardin) and Anaiya Maraman.

WARDEN

Continued from page 1 along with dignitaries and officials from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR), family and friends gathered Tuesday for the memorial dedication at Big Rivers WMA.

Family attending were Tabor's children, Steve Tabor and Stacy (Tabor) Hernandez. They were aged 5 and 2, respectively, when their father died while out patrolling the Ohio River. Grandchildren Jake and Josh Tabor were at the dedication along with Denver's sister, Louises (Tabor) Doom, and niece, Natalie

(Tabor) McPherson.

Among those in attendance from Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources were Commissioner Rich Storm, recently retired Crittenden County Conservation Officer Randy Conway, KDFWR Director of Law Enforcement Col. Jeremy McQueary, Regional Supervisor of Law Enforcement Capt. Dustin Mullins, and various other conservation officers from across the region and state. Also present were KDFWR Regional Biologist John Zimmer of Marion, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, and other friends and dignitaries.

Conway, who recently

retired as game warden in Crittenden County, said he remembered Tabor stopping by his house to visit with his father when Conway was a young boy. He described him as a squared-away individual and recalled that he wore a revolver on his hip.

"He inspired me to be a warden," said Conway, who served the department for 20 years.

The wildlife commissioner and head of KDFWR law enforcement also made comments during the 30-minute ceremony.

In addition to Tabor, 10 wardens have died in the line of duty since the agency was established in 1912.

Can your DNA haunt you?

With recent news of 23andMe filing for bankruptcy, I've found myself reflecting on the implications of having my cheek swab floating out there on the waves of insolvent corporate America. I've used this service, and honestly, at my age, it doesn't feel like much of a concern.

But if I were 40 or 50 years younger, I might have a different outlook.

23andMe, the company known for its mail-in genetic testing kits, is struggling financially and seeking a buyer. This is a company that holds the sensitive genetic profiles of over 15 million people, myself included, which naturally raises questions about data security and privacy. Given the recent data breach that exposed nearly 7 million customer accounts, those questions are more pressing than ever.



Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

Of course, there's always a bit of a gamble with any personal data these days. Whether it's our social media posts, shopping habits or even those late-night Google searches for questionable medical advice, it all leaves a trail. And let me admonish you strongly to never – I mean Never! – search for health insurance online. Turns into a nightmare.

Genetic data make up a template, a blueprint if you will... for us. It's the most personal fingerprint you can offer up, a digital road map of who you are, where you came from, and what might lie ahead. Once it's out there, it's virtually im-

possible to pull back.

For me, though, the reality is that I'm not overly concerned. The time left on my personal clock makes this less of a pressing issue. But I can understand why someone younger might hesitate before letting their spit get into the wrong hands or be sold to the highest bidder(s). The stakes, after all, are a lot higher when your genetic story has many more chapters left to tell.

Troublesome is potential for this data to be used in ways we can't even fully grasp yet. For instance, life insurance companies could one day get their hands on this information, using it to assess your risk of devel-

oping certain diseases and set your premiums accordingly – or worse, deny coverage outright. Employers could be tempted to use genetic insights to screen for longevity or predisposition to physical or mental health conditions, potentially sidelining workers before their careers even get started. Pharmaceutical companies could do great work with your DNA, including find ways to pioneer new drugs to save your life – at a price tag they determine. Think about that.

Bottom line, your DNA can stay afloat in corporate bankruptcy, or you can contact the company and have it destroyed. Trash it if you're young.

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