



**SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL**

FRESH IDEAS • EXPERT TIPS  
LOCAL SERVICES

**RENOVATE, REMODEL, REFRESH**

- Contractor Spotlights
- Landscaping Tips
- Energy-Saving Upgrades
- DIY Project Guides
- Special Offers from Area Businesses

# The Crittenden Press

2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES | VOLUME 144 | NUMBER 17

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025

We've Got Home Improvement Covered | Section B

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

AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

TWO DOLLARS

## \$36 911 fee staying on county tax bills

A \$36 annual E-911 fee will remain on property tax bills in 2025, and going forward. There had been some question as to whether the fee would be removed after the county recently tripled the occupational tax from 0.5% to 1.5%. County leaders had originally focused on creating a new tax district to help fund the ambulance service and offset E-911 funding shortfall. Yet, that idea was shelved and the occupational tax was favored for generating more income to offset needs for those services. Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said removal of the 911 fee was predicated by the ambulance tax district taking shape. As it is, he said, the county still needs that \$36 fee to support E-911, and part of the newly generated occupational tax funds will supplement 911 operations. The occupational tax increase will go up on July 1.

## 2 outdoors events are on tap for Saturdays

Two outdoors events coming up this month are supported by Marion Tourism Commission. The first will be held this weekend. On Saturday, May 10, the Big 10 Kentucky State Bowfishing Championship returns to the Crittenden County Fairgrounds. With a \$100 entry fee, which includes Big Fish competition, anglers will compete on public waters across the state and weigh in in Marion. Guaranteed payouts include \$1,000 plus 70% of entries for first place and \$500 plus 30% for second. Registration is from 6 to 6:45 p.m., with weigh-in at 3 a.m., Sunday. Cash drawings will be held at weigh-in.

The following weekend, Outlaw Off-Road Racing rolls back into town with an event at the Sugar Creek facility off Sugar Grove Church Road in rural Crittenden County. There will be three days of activities and competition May 16-18. Gates open at 8 a.m., daily, 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 features live music by Richie Lindsey and concessions from Lady Rocket Boosters. More details on both events are in this week's Early Bird.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Marion Code Enforcement Board meets at 5 p.m., Monday, May 12, at city hall.
- Livingston County Board of Education meets at 5 p.m., Monday, May 12.
- Caldwell County Fiscal Court meets at 9 a.m., Tuesday, May 13, at the courthouse.
- Crittenden County Conservation District meets at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 15, at its office on East Bellville Street.

### LISTEN ONLINE - Monday | Thursday

Have you heard The Press News Podcast? Our news and sports program is on Mondays and Thursdays. Find it two mornings each week at The Press Online.



The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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## Double Play

It's unclear whether Haven Brown and Jase Hill were working on strength training or just clowning around – maybe a bit of both – just before a youth soccer game recently at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Youth soccer is in full swing, and the Crittenden Youth Soccer Association is planning an open 7v7 co-ed tournament June 13-14 that will welcome players of all skill levels and ages. Find out more at CYSA's social media.

# SS Fairness Act benefits teachers like West

BY CHRIS EVANS  
PRESS EDITOR

Carol West can finally breathe a little easier, and so can nearly 70 other former government employees who live in or near Crittenden County.

A retired Crittenden County teacher and widow, West recently began receiving Social Security survivor benefits from her late husband following passage of the Social Security Fairness Act, a federal law repealing the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO).

"When Wayne passed, I was told I wouldn't be eligible to draw anything off of him," said West. "That was a drastic change in income. I was shocked and heartbroken."

Like millions of public servants across the country, West had been penalized by outdated policies that reduced or eliminated Social Security benefits for those who also received a public pension – even if they had worked in the public sector and paid into the SS system. Because she paid into Kentucky's teacher retirement system during her 21 years of

service, those rules barred her from receiving Social Security benefits, including spousal benefits she believed she was entitled to have, like other widows.

West retired at age 60 in 2020, planning carefully for her financial future. But the unexpected death of her husband Wayne changed everything. The WEP and GPO rules meant she would receive no survivor benefits, leaving her monthly retirement income at around \$2,000.

"I remember standing in the hallway at work, saying I wouldn't get to draw anything from Wayne's Social Security," West said. "A friend stopped me and said, 'What did you just say?' No one could believe it."

For more than four years, West leaned on her pension and worked part-time as a substitute teacher and tutor to make ends meet.

"But, it also gave me something to look forward to," she said. "I still love teaching."

Through a Facebook group of retired Kentucky teachers, West stayed informed about the growing grassroots movement to



Carol West stands with her grandson Drake Young inside a classroom where she now spends time as a substitute.

See **SECURITY**/page 4A

# Yates becomes Trooper

STAFF REPORT

Dylan Yates of Marion is among 33 new Kentucky State Police troopers who graduated from the KSP Training Academy last week. Yates will be stationed at Post 2 in Madisonville, one of five newly assigned troopers at the western Kentucky post.

A 2022 graduate of Crittenden County High School, Yates told The Press when he applied to the police academy that since his freshman year of high school he had been interested in being involved in law enforcement. He studied at Kentucky Wesleyan for two years where he played collegiate football.

Yates, 21, joins fellow Post 2 graduates Zane Baker of Cerulean, Noah Phillips of Greenville, Cainan Trautman of Madisonville, and Travis VanDrew of Russellville. He will be the fourth active state



Dylan Yates  
2022 CCHS grad

policeman hailing from Crittenden County. The others are Trooper First Class Darin Holliman, who also serves Post 2, and brothers Sgt. Cory Hamby and Trooper Chris Hamby, who serve in Post 1 out of Mayfield. Crittenden County is located in the Post 2 area.

The five new Post 2 troopers were part of Cadet Class 105, which began its 24-week training on Nov. 10, 2024. The program included more than 1,000 hours of classroom instruction and field exercises covering a

See **YATES**/page 4A

# Property assessment inspection period open

STAFF REPORT

Property owners in Crittenden County will have an opportunity to review and challenge their 2025 real estate assessments during a state-mandated inspection period that begins Monday, May 12.

The annual opening of the real property tax roll allows individuals to examine how their land and structures have been valued for taxation. These assessments, established by Property Valuation Administrator Todd Perryman, form the basis for county, state and school taxes due later this year, typically around Sept. 15.

The tax roll will be available for public viewing at the PVA office in the Crittenden County Office Complex from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Special Saturday hours will be offered May 17 and May 24 from 10 a.m. to noon. The inspection period concludes Tuesday, May 27.

PVA Todd Perryman is en-

couraging all taxpayers to review their assessments and contact his office if they believe the assessed value of their property is inaccurate.

Anyone wishing to contest an assessment must first schedule a conference with the PVA or a deputy. Those meetings may take place anytime before or during the inspection window. Taxpayers are required to present written evidence, such as recent appraisals, photos or comparable sales data, to support their claims. Instructions for submitting documentation will be provided after initial contact with the PVA office.

If an agreement cannot be reached during that conference, taxpayers may file a formal appeal with the Crittenden County Board of



Perryman

See **PROPERTY**/page 3A



## Deaths

### Fox

J. W. Fox, 77, of Salem died Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services.

Fox loved watching UK basketball. He was of the Presbyterian faith and was a U.S. Army veteran who served in Vietnam. He was a retired prep plant operator with Pyro Mining Company.

Surviving are his wife of 55 years, Dorothy Woodward Fox; a son, Jerry Dale Fox of Salem; two brothers, Coleman Fox of Marion and Richard Fox of Burna; three sisters, Pat Dickerson and Irene Leischner, both of Decatur, Ill., and Jean Ann Cobb of Elkhart, Ind; a granddaughter, Hannah Fisher of Salem; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a son, Jamie Fox; a brother, Deon Fox; and his parents, Wesley and Nancy Campbell Fox.

Graveside services were Sunday, May 4 at Salem Cemetery with Bro. James Young officiating

### Estes

Joseph Earl “Joe” Estes, 49, of Wingo,, formerly of Marion, died Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at Jackson Purchase Medical Center.

Surviving are his wife, Shelly Estes of Wingo; five children, Joseph Allen Estes, Amanda (Jonathan) Lovell, Jase Estes, Morgan Norsworthy and Chloe Tibbs;

two grandchildren, Genesis Lovell and Vivienne Lovell; his parents, Jim and Patty Estes; and several aunts and cousins.

Services were Saturday, May 3 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Mapleview Cemetery. Donations may be made to Mapleview Cemetery, P.O. Box 544, Marion, KY 42064.

### Morris

Lewis Everett Morris, 83, of Marion died Saturday, May 3, 2025 at Baptist Health Deaconess in Madisonville. He was born in Cerulean on Jan. 15, 1942, to the late Lewis and Estalene Cameron Morris.

Morris graduated in 1960 from Trigg County High School in Cadiz. He attended Kentucky Wesleyan University

in Owensboro and later finished his degree.

He was married to Lilda Gibson Morris from 1962 to 1992. He was in U.S. Army Company A and retired from the Kentucky National Guard with 21 years of service, at the rank of First Sergeant (E-8).

He enjoyed his work as a gunsmith and traveling during his retirement. He also liked to visit flea markets and yard sales.

Surviving are his sons, Perry (Mitzi) Morris and Darren (Rondell) Morris; three grandchildren, Hunter (Joelle) Emery, Ivie Morris and Dawson Morris; a great-granddaughter, Scarlett Emery; and a sister, Virginia Morris (Billy) Garland.

Per his request, there will be no visitation or services. Goodwin Funeral Home in Cadiz is assisting the family with his final wishes.

Memorial contributions may be made to the National Kidney Foundation and the American Heart Association.

## Community Calendar

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

### Thursday, May 8

- Virgil Jones VFW will meet at 6 p.m. at 412 North College St. Refreshments will be served.
- Line dancing at the Crittenden County Senior Center begins at 9:30 a.m.
- New Era Homemakers meet at the Crittenden County Extension Office at 5:30 p.m.
- Aces & Ten 4 Class will be at 2 p.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.

### Saturday, May 10

- Crittenden County Extension Homemakers will hold a bake sale at H&H Home and Hardware from 8 a.m.-1 pm. There will be cakes, pies and other goodies for Mother's Day.

- The VFW located at 412 N. College St., Marion will have a ceremony for all veterans who served during Nov. 1, 1955-May 15, 1975. This will include a pinning ceremony and a certificate will be presented. The event is sponsored by the American Revolution Paducah Chapter. David LeNeave will be the keynote speaker and Lacey Duncan will perform the National Anthem.

### Tuesday, May 13

- 4-H Council Meeting will be at the Crittenden County Extension Office at 8:05 a.m.
- Hooks and Needles begins at noon at the Crittenden County Public Library.
- After Hours meets at 5 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Office.
- Time Well Spent meets at 6:30 p.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- Shotgun and Trap will meet at 5 p.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Park.
- Rifle informational meeting begins at 5:30 p.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Park.

### Wednesday, May 14

- Challengers meets at noon at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- A Walk in the Park will start at 3 p.m. at the City-County Park.
- Aces & Ten 4 will start at 10 a.m at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.

### Wednesday, May 15

- 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.



**Crittenden County  
Animal Clinic**

**SURGICAL PROCEDURES**  
Crittenden County Animal Clinic performs surgical procedures including spays, neuters, a variety of small animal surgeries castrations, enucleations, lacerations, dentals and extractions.

**Dr. Elizabeth A. Maddux • Dr. Michelle Hughes**  
3841 US Hwy. 60 West, Marion, KY 42064  
**(270) 965-2257**

**TYNER CHAPEL  
CEMETERY**

Anyone having family buried at the chapel is urged to donate to cemetery for maintenance.

Thank You

Mail To:  
Tyner Chapel Cemetery  
P.O. Box 154  
Salem, KY 42078

**Unity**  
*General Baptist Church*  
**REVIVAL**  
**May 12-16 • 7 p.m.**

Mon. - Bro. John Dunn  
Tue. - Bro. Charlie Merritt  
Wed.- Bro. Wesley Lynn  
Thu. - Bro. Jerrod Quertermous  
Fri. - Bro. David Davis

*Everyone is welcome to come and be with us.*

**4691 Mott City Rd.  
in Crayne**

**ESTATE AUCTION**  
**Saturday, May 17**  
11 a.m. • Real Estate  
**131 Joyce Rd., Marion**


**THE DON PERRY ESTATE**  
CONTENTS AUCTIONED SAME DAY – See Buntin Auction Services for a complete list of personal property



Announcements day of sale take precedence over written advertisements. 10% down day of sale, remaining balance in 30 days with possession of deed. Cash or valid check.

**HOMESTEAD AUCTION REALTY**

308 N. Main St., Marion  
Principal Broker: **DARRIN TABOR**  
Auctioneer: **CURT BUNTIN**  
**CALL US ANYTIME (270) 965-9999**  
[www.homesteadauctionrealty.com](http://www.homesteadauctionrealty.com)



**1st Annual  
HWY 641  
COMMUNITY YARD SALE**  
**Marion, KY**  
**May 9-10, 2025 • 8 a.m. each day**  
**from Marion City Limits on Hwy. 641 to Coleman Road**  
*Norman Rd, Coleman Rd & Higgins Rd included*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**BUDGET HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED USE OF COUNTY ROAD AID AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (LGEA) FUNDS**

A public hearing will be held by Crittenden County Fiscal Court at the County Office Complex located at 200 Industrial Drive, Marion KY, on Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 8:30 am CST for the purpose of obtaining citizens comments regarding the possible uses of the County Road Aid (CRA) and Local government Economic Assistance (LGEA) Funds.

All interested persons in Crittenden County are invited to the hearing to submit verbal or written comments on possible uses of the CRA and LGEA Funds. Any person(s) who cannot submit written comments or attend the public hearing but wish to submit comments, should call the Judge Executive Office at (270) 965-5251 or email [cct@crittendencountyky.org](mailto:cct@crittendencountyky.org) by 4:00 pm CST, Wednesday, May 14, 2025, so arrangements can be made to secure their comments.

**McGee Law Office**  
– CRIMINAL DEFENSE  
– PERSONAL INJURY  
– LITIGATION  
**MCGEE-LAWOFFICE.COM**  
**(270) 928-2178**  
  
115 East Adair St., Smithland, Ky.



**Livingston Hospital**  
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**PROVIDING  
more**

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Medicare Wellness  
Women's Health  
Family Yearly Exams  
DOT Physicals



**Laura Wood, APRN**  
Livingston Care Clinic



**Kaitlin Loveless, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC**  
Livingston Care Clinic  
Grand Rivers Clinic  
Eddyville Family Clinic



**Matt Fletcher, APRN**  
Grand Lakes Clinic



**Samantha Samuels, APRN, FNP-BC**  
Jessica Sigler, PMHNP  
Jennifer Johnson, APRN, FNP-BC  
**Family Clinic**



**Theresa White, APRN**  
Eddyville Family Clinic

**Livingston Care Clinic**  
**Grand Lakes Clinic**  
**Eddyville Family Clinic**  
**Family Clinic (Marion)**

**(270) 988-3839**  
**(270) 362-8246**  
**(270) 388-0620**  
**(270) 704-4131**



# REAL ID is now a reality for air travel

STAFF REPORT

On Wednesday of this week, federal enforcement of the REAL ID Act took effect, impacting Kentuckians and travelers across the U.S. From that date forward, a federally compliant ID, such as a REAL ID, passport or military ID, will be required to board domestic flights or enter secure federal facilities.

Despite common misconceptions, May 7 was not a deadline to obtain a REAL ID, only the date when new identification requirements begin at airport security and federal buildings. Individuals can still upgrade to a REAL ID after that date, though those without one should be prepared to use an alternative form of TSA-approved identification when traveling.

Sen. Jason Howell (R-Murray), who represents Crittenden and other western Kentucky counties in Frankfort, emphasized the distinction, warning of confusion caused by limited public communication and delayed infrastructure improvements. Howell noted that only 37 percent of Kentuckians are currently REAL ID-compliant, among the lowest rates in the country.

People should understand that May 7



is not a cutoff for getting a REAL ID, says Howell and others with full understanding of the federal law.

“If you fly domestically or visit secure federal buildings, you will need a REAL ID, passport, passport card or military ID,” Howell said. “If you do not fly or visit federal facilities, you do not need a REAL ID. A standard driver’s license will still allow you to drive, vote and conduct everyday activities.”

REAL ID legislation originated with a post-9/11 commission recommendation to tighten security for state-issued IDs. The law, signed in 2005, was meant to be fully implemented by 2008, but repeated delays, largely due to state-level implementation hurdles and

the COVID-19 pandemic, have postponed full enforcement until now.

According to the Transportation Security Administration, as of late April, approximately 81 percent of travelers at U.S. airports were already using REAL ID-compliant credentials or other acceptable identification. TSA spokesperson Lisa Farbstein told the Associated Press that travelers without compliant ID may face delays or may not be permitted through checkpoints.

Kentuckians unsure whether they already possess a REAL ID should check their licenses. A star in the upper corner indicates compliance. Enhanced driver’s licenses, available in a few states like Michigan and New York, can also be used for land or sea travel to Canada or Mexico but are not valid for air travel into those countries.

Howell also raises concerns about limited accessibility to licensing centers. While driver’s licensing responsibilities transitioned from local circuit clerks to regional offices under the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet in 2019, office hours remain restricted and staffing issues persist. Lawmakers have passed legislation to allow mail-in re-

newals, mobile units for rural areas, and online services, yet many families still encounter long waits and limited appointments.

To assist with the surge, several pop-up REAL ID licensing events are scheduled across Howell’s 1st Senate District. These are open only to residents of the host county and require preregistration. Crittenden County’s next opportunity is on Aug. 5 at Crittenden County Office Complex. Registration starts July 22 and can be done online. Pop-up license opportunities are restricted to residents of the county where the event is being held.

To get a REAL ID, applicants must bring one proof of identity (e.g., certified birth certificate), one proof of Social Security (card or W-2/1099), two proofs of residency (e.g., utility bill, lease), and documentation of any legal name changes (marriage license or court order). A vision screening is also required for license renewals.

The nearest regional licensing offices for many area residents are located in Madisonville or Paducah.

For more information or to register for a pop-up event, visit drive.ky.gov.

## Environmental survey meeting is Thursday

STAFF REPORT

Residents of Livingston County and other nearby communities are invited to a community meeting addressing environmental health concerns in the region. The University of Louisville’s Center for Integrative Environmental Health Sciences (CIEHS) will present findings from a comprehensive study examining potential environmental exposures affecting human health, air and water quality, and local wildlife. The event is scheduled for Thursday, May 8 at 5:30 p.m. at the Grand Rivers Commu-

nity Center.

Livingston, Marshall and McCracken counties have been a central focus of the study due to its proximity to industrial sites and natural resources. The research team conducted extensive air monitoring, wastewater sampling and wildlife assessments to identify potential environmental hazards in the area. The goal is to provide residents with accurate information about their environment and empower them to take proactive steps toward health and safety.

Leading the community engagement efforts is Dr. Luz Huntington-Moskos, an associate professor at the University of Louisville School of Nursing and Director of the Community Engagement Core at CIEHS. Dr. Huntington-Moskos brings experience in environmental health research, particularly focusing on adolescent health and health disparities. Dr. Huntington-Moskos has a strong commitment to community-based research and has worked with under-resourced populations.



### Bridges | Creek Crossings

Crittenden County road crews have completed installation of a new culvert on the northwest end of Frances Road, allowing the road to re-open after spring flooding. The repaired stretch will remain gravel until paving can be scheduled. Meanwhile, two state highway bridges remain closed. KY 295 at the Lyon-Crittenden line over Livingston Creek is closed, but work has begun on site. KY 387, also known as Dam 50 Road, is closed at Crooked Creek east of Riverview Park. Both projects are expected to be completed in August. State funding has also been allocated for bridge replacements on KY 654 and KY 2123 in Crittenden County.

### MARION POLICE activity report

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

CATEGORY	APRIL 2025	March 2025	APRIL 2024	2024 YR TOTALS	2024 MONTHLY AVERAGE
Miles driven/patrolled	1,936	1,449	1,553	23,545	1,962.1
Criminal investigations	10	10	8	150	12.5
Domestics	9	9	6	88	7.3
Felony Arrests	1	4	3	48	4.0
Misdemeanor arrests	0	10	8	81	6.8
Non-criminal arrests	4	16	19	112	9.3
DUI arrests	0	2	0	2	0.2
Criminal summons served	3	2	25	51	4.3
Traffic citations	20	26	17	212	17.7
Other citations	9	27	56	285	23.8
Traffic warnings	8	7	3	55	4.6
Parking tickets	0	0	0	1	0.1
Traffic accidents	3	4	1	69	5.8
Security checks/alarms	69	65	55	720	60.0
Calls for service	188	231	206	2,578	214.8

**MPD 270.965.3500**  
**Police Chief**  
Bobby West

**On Facebook**  
Marion Police  
Department  
Marion-KY

## PROPERTY

Continued from page 1

Assessment Appeals. The deadline to file that appeal is one workday after the close of the inspection period, which is Wednesday, May 28. Forms and filing procedures are available through the county clerk’s office.

Failure to go through the local appeal process will disqualify a property owner from taking their case to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals.

Taxpayers with questions about personal property assessments, such as those involving machinery or business equipment, must follow a separate process. These assessments cannot be appealed locally. Instead, a written protest must be filed directly with the Kentucky Department of Revenue within 30 days of receiving the notice of assessment, as outlined in state law.

See PVA’s legal notice elsewhere in this edition. For more information, contact the Crittenden County PVA office at (270) 965-4600.

## APRIL 2025

### Weather Yearbook

**Coldest Temp**  
**32.2**

Tues., Apr. 8

**Warmest Temp**  
**84.5**

Mon., Apr. 28

**Wettest Day**  
**3.32**

Sat., Apr. 5

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Average Temp	60.2	60.6	57.2	56.1	56.9	54.1
Coldest Temp	32.2	32.6	31.6	33.5	28.9	29.2
Hottest Temp	84.5	82.7	83.9	82.6	82.3	81.6
Precipitation	9.6	3.5	2.5	6	4.1	2.29
Wettest Day	3.32	0.91	0.88	1.5	1.67	0.88

■ April brought a mix of warm days and steady rainfall to Crittenden County, with temperatures ranging from a low of 32.2°F to a high of 84.5°F. The average high for the month was 70.5°F and the average low was 50.0°F, resulting in a mean temperature of 60.2°F. Rain was a significant feature in April, with total monthly precipitation reaching 9.6 inches, marking the wettest April in the past 10 years. There were 12 days with measurable rainfall, including four days with over one inch recorded. No days reached 90 degrees or dropped below freezing, highlighting a relatively mild and wet spring month for the region.

## Spoil Mom this Mother's Day!

THE CANDLEBERRY COMPANY

**CANDLEBERRY CANDLES IN-STORE**

**HEY DUDES, CORKYS AND SKECHERS FOR MOM**

**FREE GIFT WRAPPING FRIDAY & SATURDAY**

*Hodge's*

Sports & Apparel

**NEW ARRIVAL SPECIALS FRIDAY & SATURDAY FOR MOTHERS DAY!**

**STURGIS RD. • MARION**  
**(270) 965-4717**

## Celebrate Mother’s Sunday, May 11

# Akridge Farm Supply

**Fredonia Location**  
(270) 545-3332  
Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat. 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Eddyville Location**  
(270) 388-2910  
Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat. 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.



## Fredonia buying machine to speed up repairs in town

City of Fredonia has ap-proved the purchase of a used hydro-vac trailer for \$39,500 to enhance its ability to per-form water and sewer mainte-nance in-house. The equipment, a 2023 Ring-O-Matic 275 VLX, was purchased from Best Equipment Company and includes a high-capacity spoil tank, pressurized offload features and other accessories aimed at non-destructive ex-cavation.

Mayor Jim Seibert said the machine will allow quicker re-pairs by city staff and help re-duce outside contracting costs. “This is going to allow us to do more repairs in house and faster,” Seibert said, noting that the city still has 100 water meters to check for lead. “Based on what we paid per meter last go around, we’re going to save money doing our own testing after this pur-chase,” the mayor added.

## Todd Hill’s Big Band at Fohs Saturday for benefit concert

Fohs Hall will swing to the sounds of the Big Band era on Saturday, May 10 as The Todd Hill Orchestra headlines “An Evening with The Todd Hill Or-chestra,” a special event held in conjunction with The Shine Gala to benefit The Amanda Edmonds Locke Foundation Scholarship.

Presented by Par 4 Plastics and Riverview Coal, the event invites guests to experience a full-scale big band perform-ance featuring 21 of Ken-tucky’s top musicians and jazz vocalist Kayla Marie Little. Pro-fessional dance instructors Steven and Angie Woods will also be on hand to lead the dance floor.

Tickets are available for \$20 in the lower-level gallery and \$10 for balcony seating. They can be purchased online at amandalocke.org/events or at Farmers Bank & Trust locations in Marion and Salem. Proceeds will go toward scholarships for students pursuing careers in healthcare or music. “This event will bring a level



of artistic greatness we rarely get the chance to see or hear in our environs,” said profes-sional opera singer and Marion native Corey Crider, “with the proceeds of which going to a wonderful cause, in honor of a much-beloved lady in our community.”

The orchestra’s namesake, Todd Hill, is Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies at Murray State University. For more than four decades, Hill has led his orchestra while di-recting MSU’s jazz ensembles and teaching courses in Amer-ican popular music.

The Amanda Edmonds Locke Foundation was estab-lished to honor its namesake, a beloved nurse, musician and Christian whose life and faith continue to inspire. This year, the foundation will award four \$1,000 scholarships and even-tually hopes to support re-gional cancer patients with unmet financial needs.

Additional sponsors include Community Arts Foundation, Livingston Hospital, Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel, Cumberland River Homes, Clinic Pharmacy of Kentucky, Duncan’s Service Center and Ken’s Construction.

## Livingston schools plan year-end events, graduation & more

Livingston County Schools have released their calendar of end-of-year events across all campuses. Here’s a breakdown of upcoming activities:

- North Livingston Elementary
- May 12: Field Day
- May 15: Awards Day
- South Livingston Elementary
- May 13: Field Day (K-2)
- May 14: Field Day (Grades 3-5)
- May 15: Kindergarten Gradu-ation
- 8:15 a.m. – Mrs. Snyder’s Class
- 9:30 a.m. – Mrs. Ramage’s Class
- 10:30 a.m. – Mrs. Fenske’s



Todd Hill

- Class
- May 15: 5th Grade Awards – 12:30 p.m.
  - Livingston Middle School
  - May 14: 6th & 7th Grade Awards – 9 a.m.
  - May 14: 8th Grade Promotion – 12:30 p.m.
  - Livingston Central High School
  - May 12: Graduation Practice – 8:30 a.m.
  - May 12: Field Day – 1 p.m.
  - May 13: Senior Walk – 8:30 a.m.
  - May 13: Graduation Practice – 1:30 p.m.
  - May 14: Senior Awards – 9-10 a.m.
  - May 15: Graduation Prac-tice/Dress Rehearsal – 8:30 a.m.
  - May 16: Graduation Cere-mony – 6 p.m.

## Livingston sets plan for ‘super’ searching

At its regular meeting late last month, the Livingston County Board of Education ap-proved several key items, in-cluding an increase in the finance director’s stipend and the appointment of a point of contact for the ongoing super-intendent search.

A motion to amend the dis-trict’s extra service salary schedule, which included an increase to the finance director stipend, passed by a 4-1 vote. Board member Christine Thompson cast the lone dis-senting vote, while members David Kitchens, Tony Sanders, Tammy Sayle and Terry Watson supported the measure.

The board also approved Darryl Chittenden as the offi-cial point of contact for the su-perintendent search. That motion passed unanimously. The superintendent screening committee met Monday night to begin its work to replace Supt. David Meinschein, who has resigned effective this summer to take a similar posi-tion in Murray. The committee will convene again at 4 p.m., on Thursday at Livingston County Board of Education Of-fice.

Between Printed Editions  
Tune in to The Press Online  
for breaking news.  
We also ask that you subscribe to  
our YouTube Channel.  
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## YATES

Continued from page 1  
broad range of law en-forcement topics, in-cluding constitutional law, crash investigation, defensive tactics, weapons training, hostage negotiations and more.

Yates and fellow Post 2 trooper Cainan Traut-man also earned associ-ate degrees in General Occupational and Tech-nical Studies from Blue-grass Community and Technical College while completing their acad-emy training. That op-portunity was made possible through hiring

revisions enacted by the state legislature in 2017. Among the graduates, VanDrew received the Valedictorian Award and was presented with a 2024 Dodge Durango police cruiser. He was also honored with the Ernie Bivens Award for excellence in leadership,

academics and physical training. KSP announced that Cadet Class 106 is scheduled to begin training Aug. 10. Those interested in applying to become a state trooper are encouraged to visit the agency’s website for more information.

## SECURITY

Continued from page 1  
change the law. Susan Brown, a fellow retiree and advocate, helped connect West and others with the national effort to repeal WEP and GPO. Their advocacy, including GoFundMe campaigns to support legal filings, con-tributed to the eventual legislative success.

When the law changed, West got the call she’d long hoped for. “Social Security called and said I didn’t even need to come to my appointment,” she said. “They had already deposited the back pay and told me what my new check would be. I just cried. I couldn’t believe it.”

The new law provides for back payments in some cases. West said hers went back about seven months. Now, she gets the monthly survivor benefit, which had been previously denied.

According to Social Security’s website, there have been 66 recip-ients of retroactive payments in Crittenden County, Fredonia and Salem. The Crittenden County back payment figure amounts to \$318,809 for 39 individuals. In Fredonia, there have been 11 retro payments amounting to \$56,740.80 and in Salem the figure is \$69,381 for 16 individuals. “I’m just so thankful,” she said. “It was such a relief to know my choice of career wasn’t a penalty. I wasn’t punished for being a teacher.”

West said she knows others in similar situations, including a widow who now receives benefits

from her ex-husband.

The Social Security Fairness Act, which passed with bipartisan support, removes the WEP and GPO provisions that affected nearly 2.8 million retirees nation-wide. Critics have argued the re-peal could put additional strain on the Social Security trust fund, but supporters say it corrects decades of injustice.

“This isn’t double-dipping,” West said. “This is getting what we earned.”

West continues to substitute occasionally, but the financial stress has eased.

“I might buy a few more gifts for the grandkids,” she joked.

But more importantly, she said, the change restores dignity to her retirement... and the retirement of countless others.

“God got me through it,” she said. “But this has lifted such a weight off my shoulders. I’m just grateful.”

Others in the area have also been working to spread the word about the changes. Melissa Tabor, who served as principal at Crittenden County Elementary for 17 years and spent 32 years in education, said she learned about the law from fellow educator Phyllis O’Neal.

“I always thought it was horri-ble that teachers couldn’t draw Social Security off of spouses,” Tabor said. “It is amazing to me that this is not being publicized more. People I have called knew nothing about it... they said thank you so much!”

Tabor and O’Neal have been reaching out to retired educators

to inform them of the changes.

“Word needs to be gotten out, there is no doubt that people still don’t know about it,” Tabor said.

O’Neal, who spent 27 years in education and served as principal in Livingston and Marshall coun-ties, now volunteers in local schools a couple of days a week, monitoring and tutoring.

She followed a social media page back last year when there was a big push to get Congress to revisit the idea of changing the law.

“If I hadn’t worked at all, I could draw off of my husband, but be-cause I was a teacher my whole career I couldn’t. It doesn’t make sense,” O’Neal said.

She noted that teachers became more vocal about changing the law when they felt their pensions were in jeopardy during the Matt Bevin governorship.

“Teachers realized they had no parachute with Social Security if something happened with their pensions,” she said.

O’Neal said that teachers who are not in the Social Security sys-tem have to apply to begin receiv-ing benefits.

“We were shocked that so many didn’t know about,” she said.

The repeal of WEP and GPO af-fects public sector employees in several states, including Ken-tucky, California, Texas, Ohio, Illinois, Florida, Massachusetts, Colorado, Louisiana, and Georgia.

To determine eligibility for ben-efits, individuals can visit the So-cial Security Administration’s website at www.ssa.gov or call 1-800-772-1213.



## 50 YEARS AGO

### May 8, 1975

- Paul Dean Harshman, 30, of Marion, died in a one-car accident early Monday morning. Authorities said his small Triumph convertible went off the road and flipped on KY 120 east of Marion.
- Gloria Collins and Marita Brandon were pictured sorting items for a yard sale on Bellville Street in Marion, part of a growing spring cleaning trend across town.
- Judy Winn and Gordon Guess received the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce President’s Awards at the group’s annual banquet. Chamber president Paul Mick presented the honors.
- Margaret Thurman was honored by her fellow teachers during a retirement ceremony at Mattoon School. She started her teaching career in 1943 at Shady Grove where she taught fifth and sixth grade. During the past five years, Thurman taught Head Start at Fohs Hall. For her own edu-cation, Thurman had earned a bachelor’s and master’s de-gree from Murray State.
- Wedding plans for Miss Susan Jane Fletcher and David Carter were announced. The couple planned to marry on May 24 at Marion Baptist Church.
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Orr and son and Mrs. Carlos Berguinero were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Sullivan. Mrs. Berguinero is from Lima, Purua.

## 25 YEARS AGO

### May 6, 2000

- Crittenden County Board of Education named Freder-icka Hargis as its school superintendent, succeeding the retiring Dennis Lacy. Hargis, 45, had recently been super-intendent at Fulton County.
- Rev. and Mrs. David E. Winders were honored with a 50th wedding anniversary celebration at Critenden Hospi-tal Annex Building. The couple were recognized for their ministry and lifelong dedication to each other and the com-munity.
- Extension agent Nancy Hunt encouraged families to prepare for power outages by learning alternative cooking methods, such as using grills, fireplaces or camp stoves when electric or gas appliances are unavailable during storms.
- Jamie Vaughn of WPSD-TV was scheduled to speak to the Marion Woman’s Club, sharing her experience as a television news producer and insight on media’s role in rural communities.
- Crittenden County High School junior Travis Sosh took first place in District 2 Vocational Industrial Clubs of Ameri-can electrical wiring contest at Hopkinsville.
- Tommy and Jill Croft of Lola announced the birth of a son, Clay Thomas Croft, born March 28 at Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah.
- Stephanie Lynch and John Autry, both of Marion, an-nounced their upcoming wedding.
- Andrew Fox, a 1997 graduate of Livingston Central High School, received his Kentucky Funeral Director’s License. He was employed, along with his father Charles, at Boyd Funeral Home in Salem.
- Kerri Hunt was inducted into the National Vocational Technical Honor Society.
- Pitcher Jordan Roberts threw five solid innings and teammate Matt Jent blasted a grand slam to lift the Rock-ets over Christian Fellowship Academy 13-2 at home. Livingston Central boys’ basketball coach John Tyler re-signed after three seasons and accumulating a record of 13-64 with the Cardinals.

## 10 YEARS AGO

### April 9, 2015

- Crittenden County High School student Raj Patel was selected to attended the 2015 Governor’s Scholars pro-gram. The son of Kenny and Kim Patel of Marion, he was involved in a number of academic and extracurricular ac-tivities on campus. He was president of the 4-H Rocket Club and Outstanding Male Student in 10th grade.
- Crittenden County FFA held its annual awards banquet on campus. New officers were named. They were Kasey Herrin, president; Cali Parish, vice president; Alyssa Cur-tis, secretary; Alexis Tabor, treasurer; Emmalea Barnes, reporter; Logan Shuecraft, sentinal; Dustin Collins, chap-lain and Jessi Brewer, historian.
- Tabitha Belt of Marion was recognized by Madisonville Community College with the Gardner Award for her work in the medical information and technology program.

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

## Crittenden Press

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# Aunt Rachael, a Mother’s Day tribute

In honor of Mother’s Day this Sunday, let’s visit again with our special pioneer lady, Rachael Travis, and see what she did when two of her children got lost. We know mothers are special and will do what it takes to love and protect their children. But first a little early history on this special mother.

I don’t find much written history on the females of our county, but this little lady must have made quite an impression on a lot of folks, for there are several stories about her. I would love to have a picture of her to share, but through all the years of my research, I have not found

or sunshine.

Aunt Rachael, as everyone called her, was a person with remarkable constitution. She had very little sickness during all her life. Her health was so vigorous that, a short time before her death, she could walk anywhere in the neighborhood. Her memory was so noted that she could remember all the incidents of her life and tell them with an interest that would engage the attention of all that heard her talk. At the age of 91, on March 26, 1880 she was perfectly resigned to the will of her Master, and expressed her willingness to go to her eternal home and be at peace.

She was laid to rest beside her husband James in the Piney Fork Cemetery close to where she began her life in Crittenden County.

### Our Aunt Rachael

Her name is Rachael Travis, people called her “Aunt Rachael.” She was the daughter of John and Mary Blakeley, born Nov. 5, 1788 in York County, S.C. She was 13 years old the day they crossed the top of the Cumberland Mountains coming to Kentucky. They traveled through an unbroken forest where not a single white person did they behold save those of their own party. The only thing to break the solitude of the journey was the continual change of scenery, the songs of birds, the scream of wild beast and an occasional meeting with the Indians, and she carried a rifle on her shoulder most of the way. Already a brave and strong person.

Rachael married James Travis Dec. 1, 1805 and they made their home on the Copperas Spring Road (at the crossroads of Blackburn Church Rd. and Copperas Springs Rd., where the Mike James home is today. The house is actually built around the old log home.) They were the parents of seven children, and they have many descendants in Crittenden County today.

In 1820, Rachael commenced the practice of a midwife and followed this profession nearly 60 years. No doubt she attended more births than anyone else in her day in western Kentucky. When she was called, she went whether hot or cold, rain



**Brenda Underdown**  
County Historian

### Forgotten Passages

in the Copperas Spring community of Crittenden County to another farm near Caseyville in Union County. They lived in Union County for only one year, and then moved back to Crittenden County, but it was there our story happened. This new territory was unfamiliar to the young children.

The country in 1821 was quite different from what it is today. There were no paved highways, only paths and wagon trails. Most of the country was in forest, with only an occasional field fenced with split rails. There were no stock laws, and what horses, cows and hogs the farmers owned were allowed to ‘run out’ and graze where they might.

It was a custom every morning to turn the milk cows out of the lot as soon as milking was finished and drive them a short ways from the homestead. Then after half an hour or such a matter, the calves were driven in the opposite direction and in that way cows and calves were kept separated during the day.

On this particular day, the cows and calves had been separated as usual and the family had gone to church. The preacher preached longer than usual – he always preached long – and it



**Aunt Rachael, as everyone called her, is buried beside her husband, James, in the early section of Piney Fork Cemetery. They were charter members of the Piney Fork Church.**

was past midday when the Travis family reached home.

The calves that had been driven away in the morning had not stayed away as long as usual and were on a hilltop near the barn when the family arrived.

So while Mrs. Travis prepared dinner, Tressie, 9, and her brother James Harvey, 5, were sent to drive the calves farther away. They drove them farther than they intended and before they realized it they were lost in the dense woods.

They kept walking and walking and just before dark came to an abandoned cabin. James Harvey wanted to go in and spend the night, but Tressie had heard stories of escaped Negro slaves that had run away from their masters in the South and were roaming through the forest on their way to Illinois and Indiana, and she was afraid to go in the cabin. So the two children kept walking until they were so tired they could walk no more. Tressie made a pillow of twigs and leaves and they lay down at the foot of a large poplar tree, Tressie with her head on the twigs and James Harvey with his head in Tressie’s lap.

The noises of the night kept the sandman away. The owls were hooting and the wolves barking. Once Tressie thought she heard a panther, though she was not sure.

About two o’clock in the morning they heard something walking

side of the path and the other and as he neared the young sister and brother they saw that it was Brother Wallace, the minister of their church. Then they yelled to him.

Tressie was helped up behind the preacher and James Harvey put in front and they started for home. Brother Wallace told them that all the countryside had been out looking for them, so he fired his gun to let the other searchers know that the lost were found.

### Mother Rachael was watching

The three jogged on toward the Travis home and when within a few miles of it they began to hear a trumpet sound. It never ceased until they were within sight of the house. The trumpet sound was made by their father’s fox horn, which is made from a cow’s horn.

The trumpeter of this horn was their mother, Rachael, and she was sitting on the comb of the roof of the house. Mrs. Rachael Travis was a very unusual woman, with exceptional courage and stamina. All night and all day she had sat on the housetop blowing her trumpet and watching for her children.

No one had eaten since breakfast of the previous day; no one had been


hungry until now. But now there was great rejoicing and feasting.

### History of Tressie and James Harvey

Theressa Barnett Travis, called Tressie by her family, grew up and married first David Crider. He died in 1850. Her second marriage was to John Price. Tressie died March 11, 1904 at the age of 92, and is buried in the James Wheeler Cemetery on Just-A-Mere Road. Rev. James F. Price, the well-known minister and a historian of Crittenden County, was John and Tressie’s son.

James Harvey Travis, known as Harvey, grew up to be a grand old gentleman and the ancestor of many Crittenden County families of today. He first married Mary Brantley, and they had nine children; and second he married Elizabeth Crowell Ford, a widow, and they had nine children. He died Feb. 28, 1908 at the age of 92 and is buried at the Crowell Cemetery on Nunn Switch Road.

*(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).*



## Class of 1961

We are having a meeting at  
**11 a.m., Monday, May 12**  
at The Front Porch Restaurant in Marion  
to work on plans for a 64th Class Reunion.  
We need your help.



## Have you ever considered PRE-PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL?

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## NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY

### RECOVERY BY ENVIRONMENTAL SURCHARGE OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY’S 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE PLAN

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that in an April 30, 2025 Application, Kentucky Utilities Company (“KU”) is seeking approval by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (“Commission”) in Case No. 2025-00105, pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 278.183, of an amended compliance plan (“2025 Plan”). (Collectively, KU’s Application and supporting testimony and exhibits are KU’s “tariff filing.”) If approved, KU will begin recovering capital costs associated with a new pollution control facility in the 2025 Plan under KU’s existing Electric Rate Schedule ECR (also known as the Environmental Surcharge tariff) through an increase in the environmental surcharge on customers’ bills beginning in December 2025.

KU filed an application with the Commission on February 28, 2025, in Case No. 2025-00045 seeking approval to construct a selective catalytic reduction system at the Ghent generating station to reduce nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions, which are a precursor to ozone. In Case No. 2025-00105, KU is seeking an order approving the 2025 Plan to recover the costs of this new pollution control facility through its Environmental Surcharge tariff. This project will help ensure ongoing compliance with regulations issued under the federal Clean Air Act as amended, including the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone.

The estimated total capital cost of this new pollution control facility is \$152.3 million. Additionally, KU is requesting recovery of future incremental capital and operation and maintenance expenses associated with this new pollution control facility. KU is also asking to recover the cost of publishing this customer notice through the Environmental Surcharge over 12 months and to have Environmental Surcharge recovery of future Commission-approved administrative expenses, including customer notice costs.

Beginning in December 2025, the initial bill impact for KU’s Group 1 customers is estimated to be a 0.01% increase with a maximum increase of 0.81% in 2029. Group 1 includes Rate Schedules Residential Service (RS), Residential Time-of-Day Energy Service (RTODE), Residential Time-of-Day Demand Service (RTODD), Volunteer Fire Department Service (VFD), All Electric School (AES), and all Lighting Rates (i.e., LS, RLS, LE, and TE).

RS and VFD customers using 1,085 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.01 up to \$1.09. RTODE customers using 1,043 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.01 up to \$1.14. RTODD customers using 987 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.02 up to \$1.80. AES customers using 25,620 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.30 up to \$24.28. LS and RLS customers could expect a monthly increase of \$0.00 up to \$0.12. LE customers using 2,473 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.02 up to \$1.59. TE customers using 147 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.00 up to \$0.15.

Beginning in December 2025, the initial bill impact for KU’s Group 2 customers is estimated to be a 0.01% increase with a maximum increase of 1.10% in 2029. Group 2 includes Rate Schedules General Service (GS), General Time-of-Day Energy Service (GTODE), General Time-of-Day Demand Service (GTODD), Power Service (PS), Time-of-Day Secondary Service (TODS), Time-of-Day Primary Service (TODP), Retail Transmission Service (RTS), Fluctuating Load Service (FLS), and Outdoor Sports Lighting Service (OSL).

GS customers using 1,657 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.03 up to \$2.41. GTODD customers using 19,652 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.31 up to \$25.26. PS-Secondary customers using 30,434 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.39 up to \$32.35. PS-Primary customers using 35,028 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.45 up to \$36.82. TODS customers using 189,538 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$1.54 up to \$126.82. TODP customers using 1,242,574 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$8.25 up to \$678.42. RTS customers using 7,387,224 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$38.91 up to \$3,199.31. FLS-Transmission customers using 44,229,667 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$237.46 up to \$19,525.53. OSL-Secondary customers using 4,627 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.17 up to \$13.87.

The Application described in this Notice is proposed by KU, but the Commission may issue an order resulting in an environmental surcharge for customers other than the environmental surcharge described in this Notice.

Comments regarding KU’s 2025 Plan and Application may be submitted to the Commission through its website or by mail to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.

Any person may submit a timely written request for intervention to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of the initial publication of this Notice, the Commission may take final action on the Application.

Any person may examine KU’s tariff filing at the Commission’s offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or through the Commission’s website at <http://psc.ky.gov> or KU’s website (<http://www.lge-ku.com>) after KU makes its tariff filing on April 30, 2025. KU has requested a deviation from the requirement to make the tariff filing available at its office at One Quality Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507. If the Commission denies that request, KU will make the tariff filing available at its office upon request by any person.



ASK  
the  
PASTOR

By Bob Hardison

Jesus’s  
second  
coming  
is certain

**Question:** Ever since I’ve been in church, I heard it preached that Jesus is coming again to earth to rule and reign. I mentioned this to my neighbor, and she ridiculed and mocked me for believing in Jesus’s return. Is what Jesus said about His return a hoax or is it something I need to be expectantly waiting for?

**Answer:** Jesus often used the phrase, “the Son of man” to refer to Himself. “As the days of Noah were, so the coming of the Son of Man will be. For in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah boarded the ark. They didn’t know until the flood came and swept them all away. This is the way the coming of the Son of Man will be... This is why you are also to be ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect” (Matt. 24:37-39, 44).

Just as Jesus predicted the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem and it occurred in 70 AD and His arrest, crucifixion and resurrection and they happened as He said, we can be assured that His second coming will occur at the time God, the Father, has planned.

Jesus gave us this glimpse of this coming event to encourage of this joyful future reality. We’re to live with a sense of holy expectancy. Also, His second coming should stir our hearts to do everything we can to communicate the gospel to the lost people around us. There’s never been a greater need or opportunity to share the gospel.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

AN EVENING WITH

THE TODD HILL ORCHESTRA

MAY 10, 2025

HISTORIC FOHS HALL

MARION, KENTUCKY

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featuring twenty  
of the best musicians  
IN KENTUCKY.

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WORSHIP

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

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.

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.

St. William Catholic Church

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

Marion Baptist Church

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

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.

Mexico Baptist Church

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.  
175 Mexico Rd.  
(270) 965-4059  
[MexicoBaptist.org](http://MexicoBaptist.org)

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"

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.

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m.    "Whatever It Takes"  
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.    Bro. Jamie Baker  
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.

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.

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

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

Marion Church of God

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

Hurricane Church

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



# SportsShorts

## SCHEDULE

### Upcoming events

Crittenden County | Livingston Central

**THURSDAY, MAY 8**  
LCCHS baseball at Madisonville  
CCHS softball hosts Lyon County  
LCCHS softball hosts Trigg County

**FRIDAY, MAY 9**  
CCHS baseball at Heritage Christian  
LCCHS baseball hosts Union County  
CCHS softball at Murray  
LCCHS vs So. Warren at Bowling Green  
LCCHS vs Meade Co. at Bowling Green

**SATURDAY, MAY 10**  
CCHS baseball at Ballard Memorial  
CCHS softball hosts Madisonville  
LCCHS vs. Great Crossing at BG  
CCHS Track at Area 1 Championships

**MONDAY, MAY 12**  
LCCHS baseball at Union County

**TUESDAY, MAY 13**  
CCHS baseball hosts Webster County  
CCHS softball at Webster County  
CCHS softball at Paducah Tilghman

## RUNNING

### 5K run at MCC Park

Livingston Hospital Foundation will host a 5K and 1-mile run on Saturday, May 17 at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the race starts at 9 a.m. Entry fees are \$25 for the 5K and \$15 for the 1-mile run. Participants who register by May 1 will receive a T-shirt. For more information, call or text 270-704-1360.

## BASKETBALL

### Fraliex headed to Dawson

Former Crittenden County boys’ basketball coach Matt Fraliex has been hired as the new head coach at Dawson Springs High School and will also serve as an elementary teacher in the district. Fraliex stepped down as Crittenden County’s head coach after this past season, concluding a two-year tenure as the Rockets went 3-25 in his first season and were winless at 0-26 this past year. A standout player at Caldwell County, Fraliex is still the Tigers’ all-time leading scorer with 2,941 points and he lives in Fredonia. Fraliex’s coaching career also includes a stint as girls’ head coach at Todd County Central in 2021, where he posted an 8-16 record, and he spent time as an assistant boys’ coach at Caldwell.

Fraliex takes over the Dawson Springs program following the resignation of Second Region Coach of the Year Mickey Blue, who stepped down in the middle of postseason play in March.

## BASKETBALL

### Baker basketball coach

Lyon County High School has named a new head girls’ basketball coach. It’s Ricky Baker, who has been Lyon County’s baseball coach since 2019. He replaces Dawn Cotham, who stepped down at the end of last season. Baker has previously been a boys’ assistant basketball coach.

### Perry headed to Ole Miss

Former Kentucky Mr. Basketball Travis Perry is heading to Ole Miss after one season with the Wildcats. Perry, a freshman guard, appeared in 31 games for Kentucky last season, averaging 10 minutes and 2.7 points per game. He joins a team that heavily recruited him out of high school. This past season, Ole Miss finished the season with a 24-12 record, identical to Kentucky’s. Perry is Kentucky’s all-time leading high school scorer. He played at Lyon County.

## TRACK AND FIELD

### Potter 7th at Music City

Murray State’s Karsyn Potter, a CCHS graduate, made the finals and placed 7th at the Music City Championships Track and Field meet at Vanderbilt last weekend in the hammer throw. She was the highest placing freshman in the event.

## 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 down

Crittenden County’s turkey harvest was down from the previous two years as hunters here finished the season with 350 birds, the third lowest harvest since 2000.

# Springs Sports | Weekly Roundup

## — APOLLO MEET —

Here are CCHS results from the Owensboro Apollo meet Saturday, May 3.

### GIRLS

1 Mile	Mary Martinez 4th (5:48.48), Ella Whitney 15th (7:36.15)
100 Meters	Kaylin Coleman 32nd (15.49), Hayley Moore 38th (16.21)
400 Meters	Shelbi Belt 11th (1:09.95)
100m Hurdles	Aliza Maraman 11th (21.60), Susana Suggs 14th (22.99)
High Jump	Presley Potter 7th (4-4)
Long Jump	Susana Suggs 16th (12-2.5), Ella Geary ND
200 Meters	Shelbi Belt 18th (30.93), Hayley Moore 29th (33.61)
300m Hurdles	Aliza Maraman 14th (1:07.38), Susana Suggs 15th (1:09.48)
3200 Meters	Mary Martinez 7th (12:55.04)
Discus	Ella Whitney 14th (67-9), Layken Gilchrist 31st (51-4)
800 Meters	Ella Geary 14th (2:51.70)
Shot Put	Madison Walker 10th (26-3),

Layken Gilchrist 11th (25-6.5)
4x200 Relay
Crittenden County 9th (2:06.35)
4x400 Relay
Crittenden County 7th (4:58.40)

### BOYS

Mens Varsity 1 Mile	River Rogers 28th (5:15.48)
Freshman 1 Mile	Chad Junior (CJ) Nelson 14th (5:33.53), Noah Martinez 15th (5:36.17)
Shot Put	Jamison Stevenson 35th (29-1.5), Bryan Chaney 40th (27-8.5)
Discus	Bryan Chaney 28th (83-4), Lucas McDowell 38th (71-4)
200 Meters	Noah Byford 45th (13.43)
3200 Meters	River Rogers 17th (11:33.26), Noah Martinez 23rd (11:59.73)
400 Meters	Noah Byford 22nd (59.30)
800 Meters	Chad Junior (CJ) Nelson 37th (2:31.11)
Long Jump	Kaden Herrington 26th (15-6.5), Jay Stevenson 27th (15-5.5)
Triple Jump	Noah Byford 13th (36-4.5), Jamison Stevenson DNS



### SCHOOL RECORD

Junior Ella Geary broke at 36-year-old Crittenden County High School record on April 26 at a meet in Mayfield, recording a long jum of 15 feet, 7 inches, eclipsing the former school record set in 1986 at 15-6¼ by Tina Blake. Geary is currently ranks Top 10 in Kentucky and No. 2 among Class A athletes in the First Region.

## CCHS SOFTBALL

### Big inning dooms Lady Rockets against Union County

The Lady Rockets gave up 6 runs in the second inning and could not recover against Union County Tuesday night at home, losing the game 13-6.

Elliot Evans had 2 hits and scored 2 runs and Elle McDaniel drove in 3 runs on 2 hits for Crittenden County. Brodi Rich pitched 5.1 innings, striking out 8 yet walking 6 and yielding 12 runs – just 7 earned – on 9 hits.

The loss was Crittenden’s (8-13) fourth in a row and the girls will host Lyon County in a crucial Fifth District matchup at 5:30 p.m., Thursday for a chance to finish third in the district.

### Christian draws split with Rocket girls

Crittenden County lost an early lead over the fifth and sixth innings as Christian County beat CCHS 7-5 at Marion Monday, drawing a split in the season series. The Lady Rockets beat Christian at Hopkinsville a couple of weeks ago.

Anna Boone had 3 hits and 3 RBIs in the game to break out of a hitting slump and Elliot Evans had two hits and scored a run. Elle McDaniel and Brodi Rich also had RBIs. Rich pitched 5.1 innings with 9 strikeouts, 7 hits and 4 runs, three earned. Boone went 1.2 innings and allowed 3 runs, 2 earned. Three errors were costly for the Rockets during the decisive innings when Christian came from behind to take the lead for good.

### Lady Rockets blanked by Livingston Central

Elle McDaniel had Crittenden County’s only hit in a 10-0 loss at Livingston Central last Thursday. The Lady Rockets have managed to generate just 2 hits in 3 games this season against Lady Cardinal eighth-grade pitching phenom Addison Tramble. Livingston has outscored Crittenden 34-0 in those games.

Victoria Joiner had 3 hits for Livingston in last week’s matchup while Emersyn Ramage and Chloe Doyle had 2 apiece. Livingston is undefeated in the district and CCHS winless going into this Thursday’s final league matchup at home against Lyon.

## ROCKET BASEBALL

### Rockets give up early runs in loss at Lyon County

Lyon County scored all of its runs in the first 2 innings to beat the Rockets 6-2 in a Fifth District matchup at Eddyville Tuesday. Hudson Stokes and Eli Lovell had 2 hits apiece and Jaxton Duncan drove in a run. Drake Young and Jake Ritch pitched for Crittenden County, now 7-12 on the season. CCHS will host Mayfield Thursday in a 6 p.m., start.



Crittenden County’s Brenna Kemmer delivers a pitch during a recent game at Marion-Crittenden County Park.

## Second Region Standings HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

	W	L
Livingston Central	21	3
Henderson County	23	5
Madisonville	20	8
Trigg County	19	8
Christian County	16	12
Union County	15	11
Caldwell County	10	11
Lyon County	10	11
Webster County	10	14
Crittenden County	8	13
Fort Campbell	7	8
Hopkins Central	7	23
Heritage Christian	5	6
University Heights	3	5
Dawson Springs	0	12

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

	W	L
Lyon County	14	6
Caldwell County	17	4
University Heights	13	7
Christian County	13	11
Hopkinsville	12	10
Madisonville	14	11
Henderson County	8	12
Trigg County	9	8
Union County	10	15
Webster County	12	12
Crittenden County	7	12
Livingston Central	8	16
Hopkins County Central	5	16
Heritage Christian	6	14
Fort Campbell	3	14

- Results through May 6



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# Bible, veggies, fruit: Betty’s recipe for living a century

**STAFF REPORT**

From her earliest memories in the late 1920s walking down a hill to visit her blind grandfather, to enjoying recent years near her two sons on the family farm where she was born a century ago, Betty Walker Edwards has lived a life steeped in history, resilience and faith.

On May 9, Edwards will turn 100 years old. She was born at home just three miles outside Tolu off KY 135, in a farmhouse that wasn't new even then, the same home where her son Kenneth now lives.

Betty's long life has wound its way through eras of fruitfulness, yet times of hardship, too, like The Great Depression. Yet her rural upbringing didn't change too much, even during those days in the 1930s when the country's economy dried up.

"My dad was a farmer, and we always lived the same way," she recalled. "When I was older my mother told me that we had only \$400 to last a whole year during the Depression. She made all my clothes, I don't remember having a store-bought dress during the Depression."

Born to Thomas Reed Bracey and Sammie Estelle Phillips, Betty was raised alongside a younger sister, who passed away a few years ago. Her father died of cancer in his 1960s and her mother lived to be 92.

Some of Betty's earliest memories include walking as a toddler a short distance to visit her grandparents.

"I remember my grandfather waiting outside. He was blind, and I must have been about 3 or 4. I can still hear him saying, 'I hear sister and the babies,'" she said,

recalling the nickname used in her family.

Edwards attended a one-room school before graduating from Marion High School in 1942. She was one of few students from the countryside sent to Marion to continue their education, and she lived with an aunt and uncle during the week because travel by gravel road in a Model T was difficult.

"I was a country girl going to the city," she said with a smile.

After a brief stint at Kentucky Wesleyan College in Winchester, she left to attend business college in Nashville and later worked at the Smyrna Air Base in Tennessee. At age 21, following a life-long dream to see the western U.S., she took a train, packed with soldiers heading home from World War II, to New Mexico, where an uncle had arranged a job for her at a small hospital.

Later, she later spent 18 years working for the New Mexico Medical Society as a bookkeeper and receptionist.

It was in New Mexico that she met her husband, Kenneth Richard Edwards, a Navy Seabee who had served in the South Pacific. After retiring from a nuclear research lab, the couple moved to Kentucky in 1988. They returned to Albuquerque in 2006 to be near their sons, Thomas and Kenneth, before finally moving back to Kentucky in 2020 after her husband passed away in 2014.

Today, Betty lives near both of her sons a short distance from the place she grew up. She continues to live actively, raking her yard, tending to flowers and enjoying lunch outings in town. She still attends services at Hurricane Church, where she was baptized

as a child. She fondly remembers being saved during a Hurricane Camp Meeting as a child, and she's been a faithful Christian her whole life. She and her late husband helped plant a Methodist church in New Mexico.

A child of the Depression and witness to global wars, technological revolutions and social transformations, Betty said she's seen the world change in unimaginable ways, from party-line crank phones and no electricity until 1948, to today's smartphones and the internet. She keeps a cell phone in her pocketbook with the ringer turned up so she can hear it.

She's never smoked or drank, and attributes her longevity to a simple philosophy: "The good Lord wasn't ready for me."

She also eats a healthy diet rich in fruits and vegetables, and stays active by walking – at least when the wind isn't blowing too hard.

Edwards is reflective about the life she's lived. She's proudest of her family, and believes the most important advice for younger generations is to "read your Bible."

"It's got a recipe for most everything," she said.

She's only been hospitalized twice in 100 years – once in the 1970s for thyroid surgery and once after a fall in the driveway that fractured her face in five places. Otherwise, her life has been a healthy one.

"I never thought I'd live to be 100," she said. But with her centennial birthday approaching and a full life behind her – one filled with love, service and memories that stretch from the hills of Tolu to the mountains of New Mexico – Betty Walker Edwards has more than earned the celebration.



One-hundred years old this week, Betty Edwards has only been in the hospital twice and still enjoys gardening, lunches in town and walking to stay fit.



### 4-H Teen Leadership

The 4-H Teen Leadership Academy held its annual banquet last week, honoring middle school youth from Crittenden, Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon and Trigg counties. Over the past school year, students met monthly to explore agriculture, industry, tourism and government in each county. The program helps youth grow in leadership, teamwork and communication skills, and concluded with student presentations at the banquet. Pictured are Crittenden 4-Hers (from left) Raylee Wesley, Brooklyn Lovell, Caroline Martin and Emarie Cox.



**Livingston Hospital**  
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## Heart Scans Give Mom the Gift of Heart Health this Mother’s Day

A heart scan, or CT Cardiac Scoring, is a Computed Tomography (CT) exam used to evaluate the coronary arteries for plaque and other anomalies to determine if you are at risk for heart disease. The exam only takes 15 minutes, there is no prep and it is non-invasive. Answer the questions below to find out if you are at risk.

*\*If you have had cardiac bypass surgery, stents, or know you have a cardiac calcification - this test is NOT for you.*

**Do you have any of the following primary risk factors?**

- Family History of Heart Disease
- High Cholesterol
- High Blood Pressure
- Smoking
- Diabetes
- Overweight
- Sedentary Lifestyle
- Men Over 45, Women Over 55

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# A homecoming with heart

## Couple returns to Marion and breathes new life into familiar home

BY ALLISON EVANS

When Brenda and Stuart Whitt left Michigan last summer, they didn't just bring back boxes and memories — they brought vision and a desire to be closer to family. Now, after months of renovation, the couple has settled into their newly remodeled home in Marion's Town & Country Subdivision.

The couple grew up in Marion but work took them to Michigan. However, when Stuart retired in May 2024, they packed after 11 years and moved in with Stuart's mom Anna Lou until they could find a house.

"At first, we didn't think we'd come back to Marion," Brenda said. "But the closer Stuart got to retirement, the more we felt the pull. We just wanted to come home."

Following the closure of Whirlpool's Evansville, Ind., facility, Stuart had transferred to Coloma, Mich., where they spent over a decade. Downsizing in Michigan made sense at the time, but as retirement loomed, so did the idea of returning to a slower, familiar pace of life — with more land to enjoy.

"After losing our son Addam, there wasn't much keeping us there," Brenda said. "We were ready for a new chapter... and to be closer to our grandkids," who happen to have their own room in their grandparents' house.

The Whitts purchased



the home from Gary and Belinda Middleton. It was originally built in 1959 by the late Charles and Hazel Talley. Over the decades, it passed to Willard and Martha Patmor, who expanded it significantly — most notably the kitchen and dining area.

"It's the kind of place that's grown with each owner," said Stuart. "We saw that and knew we could make it ours."

Set on a three-acre lot corner lot, the one-level layout was a big selling point.

"We loved the land, loved the layout, and

right away Stuart said, 'we're digging a pond,'" Brenda laughed.

True to his word, one of their first projects was creating a pond, complete with a fountain and fish — a feature that quickly became a centerpiece to passersby — especially springtime traffic pass-

ing their house en route to Marion's City-County Park.

The renovation — managed by local craftsmen David Perryman, Larry Duvall, and Matt Belt — took six months, starting in October and wrapping up just last week. From reroofing to repainting

every wall and ceiling, nearly every surface of the home saw transformation. Nearly every piece for the project was purchased locally — most where Stuart is working these days, at H&H Home and Hardware — and keeping it local makes the Whitts proud.

Highlights of the remodel include a relocated front door, custom wood shutters, painted siding, a brightened up kitchen, extended and modernized bathrooms, a closed-in carport and creation of a spacious three-car garage and shop. A new BBQ shack under construction out back will be perfect for family gatherings.

The home still holds onto its charm, preserving original hardwood floors and classic interior archways.

"Everyone's been so welcoming," said Stuart. "We've gotten lots of good comments. People are glad to see investment in the area, and so are we."

And while renovating a home from top to bottom could be daunting, the couple says it came together naturally. "Everything fell into place," Brenda said. "It really did."

Now that the dust has settled and the paint has dried, the couple is ready to enjoy the fruits of their labor in a home that's both fresh and familiar.

"It feels good to be back," Stuart said. "Really good."

# The benefits of lighting up your landscape

Homeowners know there's no shortage of ways to tweak a property. Some homeowners may lament that the work associated with home ownership is never done, but owning a house also provide endless opportunities to upgrade the spaces people call home.

Landscape lighting has become increasingly popular in recent years. That popularity is undoubtedly due to a number of variables, and each highlights a benefit of installing landscape lighting around a property.

- **Affordability:** Some may think of big budget projects like kitchen remodels or room additions when pondering home renovations. Such projects can have a dramatic impact on the look and feel of a home, but landscape lighting can be equally transformative at a fraction of the cost of larger undertakings. The home renovation experts at Angi.com estimate the average landscape lighting project costs around \$4,000, making affordability a notable benefit of the project.



- **Appearance:** There's no denying the aesthetic appeal of a well-lit landscape at night. Landscape lighting can be utilized to draw attention to awe-inspiring components of a landscape, whether it's natural features like gardens and foliage or manmade components like architectural features. Improved appearance can increase curb appeal, which is often associated with how a home looks during daylight hours. But photographs of a well-lit nighttime landscape can impress buyers as well.
- **Cost savings:** Landscape lighting might help homeowners reduce the cost of their homeowners

ers insurance. Researchers at PolicyGenius.com found that insurance companies typically offer a discount of 2 to 5 percent to homeowners who install a home security system. Insurance providers may offer additional savings to homeowners who pair such systems with landscape lighting, which can be a deterrent to burglars who prefer to operate under a cloak of darkness.

- **Safety:** Insurance firms may discount premiums because of landscape lighting because they view it as a deterrent to potential criminals. But landscape lighting also makes moving around a prop-

erty at night safer for residents and guests. Lighting can be used to illuminate walkways, outdoor living rooms, patios around pools, and other areas where residents and guests will be walking at night, which can reduce the risk of falls and injuries that may result from such spills.

- **ROI:** Savvy homeowners consider a renovation's return on investment before deciding to go forward with a project. Studies vary, but the National Association of Realtors indicates landscape lighting can recoup as much as 70 percent of homeowners' investment in the project at resale. When viewed through the lens of ROI, the cost of installing landscape lighting is even less.

Landscape lighting adds notable aesthetic appeal to a home at a fraction of the cost of other renovation projects. The benefits such lighting provides make the project one every homeowner can consider.



METRO SERVICES  
According to the renovation experts at Angi.com, the average cost of a landscape lighting project is \$4,000.

# Did you know?

Landscape lighting has become increasingly popular in recent years. Such lighting can extend living spaces, and many homeowners report that a well-lit landscape helps them feel more safe at home. Though the final cost to light up a home's exterior will depend on the size of a property, landscape lighting is among the more budget-friendly home renovations homeowners can consider. According to the renovation experts at Angi.com, the average cost of a landscape lighting project is \$4,000. Considering how much landscape lighting transforms the look of a property at night, that's a lot of bang for homeowners' bucks. Solar lights are popular, but homeowners may want to consider electrical wiring that ensures lights maintain their awe-inspiring glow throughout the night. Electrical work requires additional labor, and thus a higher price tag. However, Angi notes that modern LED bulbs consume just 25 percent of the energy used by incandescent alternatives, which can make them a more reliable option than self-installed solar lights.





Décor ideas may inspire homeowners to give their homes an entirely new look this spring.

METRO SERVICES

# Decor ideas give homes a fresh look

Spring is a season of re-  
novation, and that spirit  
of renewal can take hold  
inside a home.

Warm weather and longer  
hours of daylight make  
spring a perfect time to  
imagine a home's interior  
design in a new light. The  
following are a handful of  
decor ideas that may in-  
spire homeowners to give  
their homes an entirely  
new look this spring.

- Wallpaper: Wallpaper  
fell out of favor years ago,  
but new styles that aren't  
so heavily patterned can  
make for wonderful  
additions to any room.  
Large-scale prints can  
give a room a whole new  
feel without giving home-
- owners or their guests the  
impression that they have  
stepped back in time. A  
simple, mural-style floral  
wallpaper on the walls  
surrounding a table in a  
breakfast nook can bring  
nature inside.
- Pastel colors: Nothing  
embodies the spring quite  
like pastel colors. If color-  
ful, bright flowers dot the  
garden in the backyard,  
homeowners can bring  
those uplifting pastels in-  
side by painting an accent  
wall or even adding some  
brightly colored accent  
furniture to rooms that  
could use a lift.
- Declutter: Clutter is  
often conquered during  
spring cleaning sessions,

but homeowners who want  
to create more free-flowing  
interior spaces can down-  
size their furniture and/or  
look for multipurpose fea-  
tures that make it hard for  
clutter to take over a room.  
Create more open space  
in entertaining areas by  
mounting the television  
and getting rid of a bulky  
entertainment center. Cre-  
ate even more space by  
replacing rarely used end  
tables with a storage ot-  
toman where books and  
magazines can be stored to  
give a room a fresh, clean  
look.

- Accent features: Some-  
times the smallest changes  
to an interior space make  
the biggest impression.

Replace dated accents  
like vases and table lamps  
with newer items that re-  
flect the latest styles and  
trends. Such adjustments  
won't break the bank,  
and they can give rooms a  
whole new feel.

Spring is a great time to  
reconsider home interiors.  
This spring homeowners  
can embrace various strat-  
egies, both big and small,  
to give their homes a whole  
new feel.

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# Know signs of pest presence

As any seasoned party host knows, guests can sometimes overstay their welcome. But what about guests that were never welcome in the first place? Pests can wreak havoc on a home, contributing to significant and costly damage and potentially exposing residents, particularly pets, to harmful illnesses.

Pest infestation can occur any time of year, but homeowners may be most likely to see signs of infestation during spring cleaning sessions in areas of the home where they didn't spend much time in the previous months, such as attics and garages. As spring cleaning season kicks off, individuals can keep an eye open for the following signs of pest infestation.

- Nesting materials: Pests may drag certain nesting materials from outdoor areas into a home. Leaves and grass clippings as well as twigs may be used to construct a warm nest in interior spaces. Pests also transport nesting materials that are inside a home to other areas of a home that are more secluded. Fabric, paper products, including chewed cardboard, and insulation seen in unusual spaces may be left behind by pests nesting in other areas. If there's a trail of such materials, follow it to see if you can find a nest.

- Pets behaving strangely: Pets can't tell their owners if there's pests in a home, but they may exhibit signs suggesting an infestation. Pets may start scratching at walls and doors with their paws or sniffing around areas where they can smell pests.

- Unexplained odors: Foul odors are not necessarily indicative of a pest infestation, as such aromas could indicate a range of issues. But pest feces can produce a foul odor, and some pest infestations can lead to mold growth that also produces unpleasant smells.

- Destroyed items: Certain pests may gnaw or chew on items, including electrical wires, home furnishings and food packaging. Homeowners who keep a stocked pantry of dry goods and notice packages have been damaged or chewed through likely have a pest infestation.

- Droppings: Of course, droppings are a telltale



indicator of a pest infestation. Rodent droppings are small, black and shaped like a grain of rice. Pests such as termites might leave pellet-shaped droppings in their wake.

Signs of pest infestation may be discovered during spring cleaning

sessions. If homeowners suspect pest infestations in their home, they can examine out-of-the-way spaces with a flashlight and contact a pest control specialist to identify and address any issues they uncover.

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# Signs a home exterior needs updating

Renovations are a great way for homeowners to re-shape their homes. Some may aspire to renovate so their home is more reflective of their personal taste, while others may do so in an effort to make their homes better align with modern styles and sensibilities. Regardless of why a homeowner chooses to renovate, the need to do so is often evident to the naked eye, especially when the time comes to update home exteriors.

Curb appeal is often discussed in regard to the effects it can have when selling a home. But curb appeal is equally important for homeowners who aren't putting their homes on the market. A well-maintained, aesthetically appealing home is a source of pride, while a home with fading curb appeal can make homeowners feel a little sheepish. Homeowners who want their homes to maintain their curb appeal can look for signs that it's time to update their home exteriors.

- Curling shingles: The roof may not be the first thing people think of when pondering curb appeal, but a damaged roof can contribute to problems that ultimately affect the exterior and interior of the home. Multiple curling shingles indicate it's time to replace the roof. The sight of curling shingles is not pretty, but the larger issue in such instances is the potential for costly water damage when water gets in through the affected shingles.
- Dated entry door: Many home improvement experts insist they can de-

termine when a home was built or most recently renovated simply by looking at the front door. Steel and glass doors are popular in modern homes, so homeowners with front doors with ornate designs and oval glass inserts can likely benefit from an upgrade to their entryway. A modern front door can make a statement and real estate experts note how popular updated front doors are among buyers.


- Unsightly landscaping: It's not only the physical components of the home that may suggest an update is necessary. Homeowners without a green thumb may have exterior landscaping that

has seen better days. If a spring or summer day spent tending to your landscaping is not your ideal weekend pastime, then consider replacing unsightly landscaping with low-maintenance plants or hardscaping. These alternatives to more needy plants can create curb appeal without requiring any extra work for homeowners.

- Cracked driveways/walkways: If the driveway

looks like a busy road at the end of snow plowing season, chances are that's adversely affecting the impression people have of your home. In addition, cracked walkways indicate a need for renovations, as these areas are front and center when welcoming guests.

Updating a home's exterior can restore curb appeal and help homeowners feel better about their properties.



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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**  
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**Crittenden County, KY - 115.86 Acres - \$446,000**  
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**Crittenden & Union Counties, KY – 4,690 Acres – OFFERED IN MULTIPLE TRACTS – CONTACT AGENT!**  
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**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**  
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**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**  
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# Accommodate modern living by upgrading your home

Remodeling projects allow homeowners to put their personal stamps on a property. In addition to choosing a color and design scheme that fits a particular aesthetic, homeowners may want to outfit their homes with various features that can make them more accommodating to modern living. Homeowners can use these ideas as a springboard for remodeling projects designed to modernize their homes.

- Open floor plans: Open floor plans remain coveted characteristics of modern home architecture. An open layout enables occupants to feel like they are enjoying spaces together without having to be on top of one another. Since sightlines are not obstructed in open floor plans, homeowners can enjoy a cohesive design style across each level of the home.
- Eco-friendly features: Eco-friendly features modernize homes and may even earn homeowners rebates from the government. From positioning rooms to take advantage of natural sunlight to using environmentally responsible materials throughout a home, modern homes can function with a much smaller carbon footprint than older structures.
- Smart home technology: A smart home is equipped with appliances and other devices



that can be controlled remotely, typically from a phone or computer connected to the internet. Investopedia notes that smart home technology offers homeowners convenience and cost savings. Smart home technology is available across a wide range of budgets, ranging from thousands of dollars for a complete home automation to roughly \$100 for a small change like a smart thermostat.

- Accessibility features: A home that can grow with its residents is advantageous. When choosing renovations, features like slip-resistant flooring, stylish grab bars and low-threshold or barrier-free showers can enable homeowners to age in place more comfortably.
- Dual owner's suites: Dual owner's suites can be an asset for couples who choose to sleep separately. The Sleep Foundation says individuals choose to sleep in different rooms for a variety of reasons, notably reduced sleep interruptions and

improved sleep quality. Plus, an extra bedroom can come in handy when one person is ill or in the event a partner snores. Rather than one person in the relationship getting the "lesser" space, certain homebuilders now offer plans for dual owner's suites so both people get the features they desire in a bedroom.

- Three-season room: Many homeowners aspire to bridge the gap between the indoors and outside. Three-season rooms help transition from the yard to the interior of a home, and offer a touch of nature without the bugs or unpleasant elements.

A number of home improvements can bring homes up to the standards of modern living.

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# Earthy colors dominate 2025

Change is in the air when a new year arrives. People often use the turn of the calendar as an opportunity to redecorate living spaces or revamp their wardrobes. As individuals narrow down their projects, they may want to incorporate a fresh and trendy palette of colors. For 2025, the options are decidedly warm, cozy and earthy. Industry color experts routinely recommend hues that can elevate homes, offices and other spaces. The following is a selection of shades that insiders predict will color the world for the coming year.

**Quietude**  
Sherwin-Williams has named Quietude its color of the year. This soft sage color exudes serenity and understated luxury. Grayish-green with a touch of blue, Quietude is a soothing color of tranquility. Sherwin-Williams also offers a Color Collection of the Year that includes Convivial Yellow, Spiced Cider, and Nomadic Desert, among others.

**Mocha Mousse**  
The title of Pantone® Color of the Year 2025 belongs to Mocha Mousse. Just as the name implies, this rich, warm brown suggests the intoxicating qualities of coffee and chocolate. It can create a feeling of comfort in any space, or even serve as the basis of a chocolate wardrobe color palette. According to Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute, Mocha Mousse is “sophisticated and lush, yet at the same time an unpretentious classic.”

**Purple Basil**  
Glidden’s 2025 color of the year title belongs to Purple Basil, a dusty, neutral violet purple hue with mauve undertones. It embraces rich, warm energy, and is



equally at home in a bedroom as it is in a dining room.

**Cinnamon Slate**  
Cinnamon Slate is moody and introspective. This Benjamin Moore color blends rich plum and chocolate brown that the company calls “adaptable, yet distinct.” In fact, it is quite similar to Glidden’s color of the year, but a tad more brown in nature.

**Caramelized**  
Homeowners may want to consider Caramelized, an earthy terracotta brown that is Dunn-Edwards’ 2025 Color of the Year. Caramelized is versatile and elegant, and it complements both modern and vintage interiors.

**Elderton**  
Paula Taylor, Graham & Brown’s head stylist and trend specialist, calls Elderton “a chameleon color

that can be sophisticated yet cozy.” This medium brown is contemporary with a huge amount of depth. It may work in a rustic living room or a cozy library. The new year arrives with a warm, saturated color palette that can revitalize spaces with cozy appeal.



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legal notices

Notice is hereby given that on April 30, 2025 Amanda Oliver of 7426 Blandville Rd., Kevil, KY 42053 and Levi Oliver of 221 Harmon Dr., Marion, KY 42064 were appointed co-executors of Brent Shannon Oliver, deceased, whose address was 221 Harmon Dr., Marion, KY 42064. Hon. Cobie Evans, P.O. Box 439, Marion, KY 42064, attorney. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the co-executors before the 30th day of October, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

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Monthly discounts are available to residential customers meeting certain low income criteria.

For more information, contact TDS Telecom toll-free at 1-888-CALL-TDS.



\*The above rates do not include charges for long distance, operator services, Directory Assistance, 911 emergency service, optional local calling plans, mandatory local mileage or zone charges, or other state and federal taxes/surcharges. 212195KYLE/3-25/12930

greenspace 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 notices

The Crittenden County Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for the following lots:



- plumbing
- septic tanks
- dirt work

270-704-0530  
270-994-3143

Use Happy Jack® KetoWipes for dual-action antibacterial and antifungal properties—ideal for managing skin conditions in dogs, cats and horses without steroids. Akridge Farm Supply 270- 545- 3332

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Sales • Service • Installation

Commercial & Residential  
Salem, KY 42078  
(270) 988-2568  
Cell (270) 508-0043

Open 6 Days A Week  
INSURED

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 CBOE 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)

NOTICE OF PASSAGE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE 25-O-003: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 12-005 RELATING TO THE IMPOSITION AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE REQUIREMENT AND PAYMENT OF AN OCCUPATIONAL AND OTHER COMPENSATION AND NET PROFITS TAX BY PERSONS AND BUSINESS ENTITIES CONDUCTING BUSINESSES, OCCUPATIONS, AND PROFESSIONS WITHIN CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KENTUCKY.

Notice is hereby given that the Fiscal Court of Crittenden County Kentucky, at a special called meeting held on April 29, 2025, at 5:00 o'clock p.m., gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Ordinances of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at its regular meeting of the Fiscal Court held on April 17, 2025, at 6:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

This Ordinance amends the rate to One and One-half percent (1 ½%) on occupation and net profits in Crittenden County. Further, the license fee is amended to Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

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

PREPARED BY:  
/s/ Robert B. Frazer  
ROBERT B. FRAZER  
CRITTENDEN COUNTY ATTORNEY  
P.O. BOX 364  
MARION, KY 42064  
270/965-4600  
April 30, 2025

Use QR Code to Search Kentucky Public Notices or go to kypublicnotice.com



INSPECTION PERIOD FOR THE PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT ROLL

The Crittenden County real property tax roll will be opened for inspection from May 12 through May 27, 2025. Under the supervision of the property valuation administrator (PVA) or one of the deputies, any person may inspect the tax roll.

This is the January 1, 2025, assessment on which state, county, and school taxes for 2025 will be due about September 15, 2025.

The tax roll is in the office of the property valuation administrator located in the Crittenden County Office Complex and may be inspected between the hours 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday and Saturday May 17 and May 24 between the hours 10:00 am and 12:00 pm.

Any taxpayer desiring to appeal an assessment on real property made by the PVA must first request a conference with the PVA or a designated deputy. The conference may be held prior to or during the inspection period. Written documentation supporting your opinion of value will continue to be required. However, you will be instructed on the best method of submitting your documentation after contacting our office regarding your request to have a conference.

Any taxpayer still aggrieved by an assessment on real property, after the conference with the PVA or designated deputy, may appeal to the county board of assessment appeals.

The appeal must be filed with the county clerk's office no later than one workday following the conclusion of the inspection period. Please contact the county clerk's office to receive instructions on the method the office is using to accept appeals this year and to obtain a form that can be used to file your appeal.

Any taxpayer failing to appeal to the county board of assessment appeals, or failing to appear before the board, either in person or by designated representative, will not be eligible to appeal directly to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals.

Appeals of personal property assessments shall **not** be made to the county board of assessment appeals. Personal property taxpayers shall be served notice under the provisions of KRS 132.450(4) and shall have the protest and appeal rights granted under the provisions of KRS 131.110.

The following steps should be taken when a taxpayer does not agree with the assessed value of personal property as determined by the property valuation administrator.

- (1) Taxpayer must list under protest (for certification) what they believe to be the fair cash value of their property.
- (2) Taxpayer must file a written protest directly with the Department of Revenue, Office of Property Valuation within 30 days from the date of the notice of assessment.
- (3) This protest must be in accordance with KRS 131.110.
- (4) The final decision of the Department of Revenue may be appealed to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals.

Todd Perryman  
Property Valuation Administrator

Crittenden County



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