



The Crittenden Press

Our Special Coverage | Section B

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

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TWO DOLLARS

Hayride will roll Saturday

A star-studded lineup of entertainers from Marion and beyond will occupy the Fohs Hall stage Saturday night starting at 7 p.m., for the biannual Old Kentucky Hayride. Tickets are \$5 and a special guest star is expected to make an appearance.



Correction to article

The article about Crittenden County Ambulance Service in last week's edition contained an error. It wasn't a factual mistake but rather proofreading marks that should have been removed before printing. We corrected the digital version of the newspaper, but print readers saw the faux pas on page 1.

Latest election filings

Crittenden County candidate filings to date, include Perry Newcom, judge-executive; Nathan Ratley, judge-executive; Bart Frazer, county attorney; Chad Nelson, county attorney; Daryl Tabor, county clerk; Evan Head, sheriff; Ray Agent, sheriff; Todd Perryman, PVA; Robbie Kirk, jailer; Brad Gilbert, coroner; Danny Fowler, 1st District magistrate; Rob Horack, 1st District magistrate; Matt Grimes, 2nd District magistrate; Brennan Cruce, 5th District magistrate. All are Republican candidates.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Board of Education meets at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 13 at Rocket Arena.
- Crittenden County Board of Elections meets at 3:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 14 at the county office complex.
- Marion-Crittenden County 911 Board will meet at 3:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 17 at city hall.
- Marion City Council will meet Monday, Nov. 17 at city hall.
- Fredonia City Council will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, Nov. 17 at city hall.
- Salem City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 18 at Deer Lakes meeting room.

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‘Gas Station Heroin’ Governor putting lid on 7-OH kratom

Months after Marion city officials began examining the sale of kratom at local stores, Gov. Andy Beshear has announced state-level action to classify a powerful kratom compound as a Schedule I narcotic, putting it in the same category as heroin and LSD.

The move, announced last week, targets 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH), a concentrated chemical derived from the kratom plant that health officials say poses a serious risk of addiction and overdose. When finalized, the new regulation will make it illegal to sell, possess or distribute any isolated or concentrated forms of the substance in Kentucky.

The decision follows months of growing concern statewide, and in Marion, over kratom's availability at convenience stores and smoke shops. Some have dubbed it "Gas Station Heroin." Kratom, which acts as a stimulant in small doses and mimics opioids in larger quantities, has been sold legally in Marion and Fredonia at convenience stores.

In June, the Marion City Council began



MPD Chief Bobby West

looking into kratom sales after being approached by healthcare professionals and residents concerned about its accessibility and potential for abuse, particularly among children.

"It's not regulated. A 10-, 11- or 12-year-old could walk in and get it," said nurse practitioner Laura Harris Wood during that June meeting. "That's not good, especially because of the addiction risks."

At that time, council members were told kratom was sold behind the counter and that buyers were required to show ID proving they were at least 21. City Attorney Bart Frazer advised that enforcement of those regulations was civil, not criminal, and Mayor D'Anna Browning asked city officials to research what, if any, additional local actions could be taken. No further official action was taken in subsequent meetings.

Marion Police Chief Bobby West said this week that he supports the governor's effort to tighten regulations, echoing concerns he voiced earlier this year about kratom's presence in local stores.

"I support stiffer regulation on kratom. Many are addicted to it, and I've heard many

See **KRATOM**/page 3A



Fabulous Fall-Out

Ashley Yancy spent her lunch break at Marion-Crittenden County Park late last week, enjoying a warm, sunny fall afternoon, taking a short respite from her job as a pharmacist at CVS in Marion. This week has brought more seasonable cold, and snow flurries.

County water rates up in December

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden-Livingston County Water District (CLWD) customers will likely see higher water bills beginning in January, reflecting usage from December under a new rate plan approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC). The new rate structure will require final approval by the water district board later this month.

The PSC has signed off on a 13.07% rate increase for the district, which is slightly higher than the 12.74% hike recommended earlier this year by commission staff. The

adjustment is expected to generate about \$402,000 in additional annual revenue for the district. For the typical household using 4,000 gallons of water per month, the monthly bill will rise from \$67 to about \$75.73, an increase of \$8.73.

The rate hike is the first for CLWD since 2018 and comes after a lengthy financial review prompted by rising operational costs, aging equipment and other factors.

While the overall water rate increase is

See **WATER**/page 5A

Hunting, fishing licenses going up in January; then every other year based on price index

STAFF REPORT

State legislators have approved a new, predictable approach to how the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources adjusts license, tag, registration and permit fees.

Following adjournment of the Interim Joint Committee on Natural Resources and Energy meeting on Nov. 6, 2025, the initiative (301 KAR 5:022) and several other changes to state administrative regulations were finalized and are now in effect.

The department will make incremental price adjustments every other year tied solely to the Consumer Price Index, the national inflation gauge calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Federal Duck Stamp and application fees are exempt from CPI adjustments. All licenses, permits, tags and registrations sold by the department will be adjusted in January

using the CPI rate from 2024 and 2025, following the expected BLS announcement of the CPI index. The adjustment will affect the remainder of the 2025-26 license year through Feb. 28, 2026, and the 2026-27 license year starting March 1, 2026.

Relying on a widely accepted federal economic indicator to determine price adjustments for user fees helps our customers know when to anticipate changes, and it's a common-sense way to adjust for inflation, said Gabe Jenkins, deputy commissioner for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. KDFWR is a fee-based agency and



See **HUNT**/page 7A

Hunting is now drug store style

Well folks, it's that time of year again, the first week of modern rifle deer season. The forests are filling up with hunters in designer blaze and custom camo that costs more than my first rifle, carrying enough electronics to launch a lunar mission. I swear, today's outdoorsmen have more gadgets than goosebumps on opening morning.

When I was a wee lad, there was a term for people who were a little on the tender side when it came to hunting – you know, the ones who didn't like to get cold or dirty. Nowadays they'd probably be referred to as "slightly effeminate," but back then we called them "Drug Store." But, in those days we called a liar a liar and nowadays they're spoken of as an "unreliable narrator." I think the Drug Store moniker came from the Urban Cowboy culture. To real cowboys, it meant someone was "all hat, not cattle."

In the 70s, if a fella wore earmuffs in the deer stand or slipped one of those "hot pocket" gizmos in his boots, we figured he was Drug Store. We believed in Grizzly Adams hunting – though if you ask me, Dan Haggerty himself was a bit of a tenderfoot. I bet Mary Lou and Dan'l would back me up on that.

I remember the first 4x4 in our neck of the woods. It was a Dodge Power Wagon, and we thought it was a spaceship. Most of our dads drove two-wheel-drive rigs, and we took those as far as the tar-and-chip or gravel road would allow. After that, it was all LPC – that's Leather Personnel Carrier, meaning we walked. There was no fancy footwear, just Army-style lace up leather boots, and when they got cold, so did your feet. There weren't any ATVs or UTVs, and if you got your truck stuck, you just hoped it wasn't so deep that the tailgate disappeared.

Our deer stands weren't those air-tight, factory-made blinds you see today with swivel chairs and heaters inside. No sir. We nailed a few old boards between the fork of a tree and maybe had a small piece of plywood to sit on. Climbing up was half the adventure. The steps were recycled boards nailed to the trunk, and after about five rungs, the only thing between you and a lifetime in traction was two 12-penny nails. It's a miracle more of us didn't end up with busted limbs or broken backs.

As for rifles, there were basically two kinds: a bolt-action .30-06 or a .30-30 lever-action Winchester. If you wanted a scope, you'd have had a Marlin .30-30 since it had side ejection – otherwise, you'd be ejecting your spent shells right into your optics. I cut my teeth on iron sights and didn't have a scope until after I could drive.

We didn't have trail cameras to prove there was a trophy buck nearby. We had to rely on a sixth sense, and a little reading of the land. Droppings, footprints, rubs, paw places and other signs were our intel. Yeti wasn't a brand back then, it was something you hoped didn't



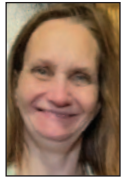
Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

See **STORE**/page 3A

Deaths

Ivy-Angel

Doris Annette Ivy-Angel, 49, of Evansville, Ind., died Monday, Nov. 10, 2025 at Deaconess Hospital Midtown. She worked as a server/cashier at McDonalds.



Surviving are her mother, Janice Anne Ivy; father, Raymond Edward Moyers; a brother, Gary (Dovie) Ivy; seven children, James Puckett, Ashley Puckett, Francine Puckett, Rose Ivy, Jesse Ivy, Matthew Angel and Marie Angel; a granddaughter, Lorraine Langlesy; and several nieces and nephews. Graveside services fare at 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 15 at New Union/Ditney cemetery. Myers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Lott

Michael “Mike” Elwood Lott, 51, of Marion died Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2025, at Deaconess Hos-

pital of Henderson. He was born on Aug. 28,1974 in Marion to the late Elwood and Susie Ellen Smith Lott. Lott was a beloved employee at True Value in Marion for many years and was of the Baptist faith. Surviving are his sister, Vicki Burris; brother, Stanley Lott; nephews, Derek Burris and Levi Burris; nieces, A'Deana (Mitchell) Quertermous and Cheyenne (Jesse) Baker; great-nephews, Luke, Axel and JJ; great niece, Brinley; and several cousins. Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m., on Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025 at Frances Cemetery. Gilbert Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



loved hunting, fishing and being outdoors. He especially loved his family. Surviving are his parents, Aleshia (Chris) Phillips of Tolu, Shawn (Nikki) Guill of Salem; brothers and sister, Easton Jase Koon, Nathaniel Hayes Phillips, Trent Weston Guill, Sarah Phillips and Justin Hayes Phillips; maternal grandparents, Joy Koon of Salem and Allen Koon of Metropolis; paternal grandparents, Paul and Renee Guill of Carrsville; an aunt, Kara Koon of Salem and an aun Ot, uncle and cousins Jackie, Trevor, Grace and Eden Jessie of Louisville and special friend Lilly Reed of Webster County; many other family members and friends. He was preceded in death by his great-grandparents, Don Travis and Joyce Williamson and Dick and Geraldine Koon. Graveside services were Sunday, Nov. 9 at Asbridge Cemetery. Paid obituary



Guill

Kaden Travis Guill, 18, of Salem, died Monday, Nov. 3, 2025 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services. He was well known at Crittenden County High School. He was a kind hearted young man who

Tips to protect your mental health

Social media is something we all use daily. It can be a useful tool, providing news and information in small, digestible pieces. Despite its benefits, social media can also be toxic and negatively impact mental health. There are several ways to better navigate social media and be mindful of its effects. Turning off notifications can help reduce distractions and stress. Social media alerts often pull attention away from the present moment, increasing anxiety. If turning off notifications completely feels difficult, try using the “do not disturb” feature on your phone. Limiting your time on social media can also im-

prove mental well-being. Spending excessive time online may lead to feelings of isolation, anxiety, and lower self-esteem. Setting time limits allows you to focus on more important life tasks and can boost your mental health. Avoid comparing yourself to others on social media. As the saying goes, “comparison is the thief of joy.” It can lead to lower self-esteem and poorer mental health. Instead, follow pages and creators who reflect your values and interests. Curating a positive feed helps promote mental wellness and allows you to use social media as a source of inspiration rather than comparison. In addition to these strat-

egies, there are several ways to build self-esteem and confidence, which can lessen social media’s negative impact. Practicing positive affirmations can improve your outlook—simple statements such as “I am enough” can make a big difference. Building healthy relationships supports mental health and reinforces a positive self-image. Engaging in regular self-care creates a strong foundation for emotional well-being, while physical activity benefits both mental and physical health. Social media can be a valuable tool, but it’s important to use it mindfully. By following these tips, you can protect your mental health and enjoy the positive aspects of the online world. <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/depression/in-depth/depression-and-exercise/art-20046495>



Rebecca WOODALL
EXTENSION AGENT
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Community Calendar

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

Thursday, Nov. 13
• Line dancing will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Crittenden County Senior Center.
• The Virgil Jones VFW will be having a meeting in the VFW building on North College St., at 5 p.m. A Thanksgiving meal will be served first.
Sunday, Nov. 16
• Tolu Methodist Church will be having a Thanksgiving meal at 1 p.m., in the Tolu Community Center. The meal is free and everyone is invited.
• Crittenden County Homemakers quarter auction starts at 2 p.m. at St. William Catholic Church. Doors open at 1 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 17
• Wits Workout beginst at 1 p.m., at the Crittenden County Public Library.
• 4-H Geology Club will meet at 3:30 p.m., at the Ben E.

Clement Mineral Museum.
Wednesday, Nov. 19
• Walk in the Park will start at 3 p.m., at the City-County Park.



Crittenden County Animal Clinic

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

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Bright Beginnings announces fall gift basket winner

The winner of Bright Beginnings’ fall gift basket drawing was Susan Crase, pictured above with Teresa Robertson, community education coordinator for the Livingston Hospital program. The basket drawing was held in conjunction with Mental Health Awareness Month in October. Bright Beginnings holds a community education event at Crittenden County Senior Citizen Center at 10:30 a.m., the second Thursday of each month.

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Riley expanding with additional site off 641 south of Marion

Riley Tool and Machine is having dirt work done off US 641 near the intersection of Crayne Cemtery Road, preparing to expand its operational footprint.

Owner Todd Riley says the new facility will be a staging area for heavy equipment. His headquarters on Moore Street, Riley said, is becoming overcrowded as the company grows.



Investigation ongoing into possible gunshot damage to car on KY 91

A Friday evening commute from Hopkinsville to Marion turned bizarre and potentially dangerous for Jonathan James of Marion.

As he was traveling at dusk on the Princeton side of the Crider community in Caldwell County along KY 91, James said something shattered the windshield of his car. He suspected it was some type of road hazard as he met a couple of oncoming vehicles. He didn’t initially stop to survey the damage, but the more he observed it and continued to replay the incident in his mind, the more it began to seem perhaps more sinister than a simple road hazard.

After stopping just inside Crittenden County to get a better look, James thought it might have been a shotgun blast, so he dialed 911 to report the incident. After meeting with Crittenden County Sheriff Evan Head, he reported the incident to Caldwell County authorities.

James said based on his observations and conversations with investigators, it appears that someone, perhaps from the oncoming traffic, fired a round of steel waterfowl shot at



his car. The hood, windshield and roof were all damaged by about 20 different projectiles, James said.

Caldwell County Sheriff Don Weedman said the incident remains under investigation, and anyone with information can contact his office at 270-365-2088.

Davidson will not seek re-election in Livingston

After 16 years in office, Livingston County Sheriff Bobby Davidson announced last week that he will not seek re-election in 2026.

Davidson, who was first elected in 2010 and took office in January 2011, shared the news on social media as candidate filing opened statewide. In a public statement, he reflected on his tenure, calling it “the greatest honor of my life to serve the people of Livingston County.”

During his four terms, Davidson said the sheriff’s office has implemented new departmental policies, launched the School Resource Officer program, supported community initiatives like D.A.R.E. and Santa Cop, and modernized technology and training.

He credited much of the department’s success to his staff, including Chief Deputy Shannon Edging, former Chief Deputy Devin Brewer and longtime administrative assistants Janet Moneymaker and Tina Tinsley.

Livingston candidates file for spring primary

Subsequent to the announcement that longtime Livingston County Sheriff Bobby Davidson would not seek another term in office, local officers Shannon Edging, Glenn A. Gordon and Donald Crawford have each filed to seek the sheriff’s post in Livingston County.

Other Livingston County candidates who have filed as of early this week are Mark Long, 2nd District magistrate; Jeff Armstrong, coroner; Benji Guill, jailer; and Sonya Williams, county clerk.

Leadership West KY

accepts applications

Leadership West Kentucky is accepting applications for its fourth class, which begins in January. The regional leadership program aims to include 30 to 35 participants representing each of the 15 counties in the West Kentucky Regional Chamber Alliance.

Applications are available at wkrca.org or through local chambers of commerce and will be accepted through Dec. 5. Applicants must live or work in one of the alliance counties and have employer support to participate and cover tuition.

The program, coordinated by The Leadership Center of the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, is designed to build a network of informed leaders across community lines. Participants will explore topics such as transportation, education, economic development, agriculture, and tourism through interactive sessions and tours.

The six-month program begins with a mandatory overnight orientation Jan. 21-22 in Paducah and concludes with graduation June 25 in Hopkinsville. TVA is the presenting sponsor.

Counties represented in the alliance include Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken and Trigg.

For more information, contact Frank Bennett at 270-443-1746 or fbennett@paducahchamber.org, or email info@leadershipwestkentucky.com.

Lunch & Learn event

Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce will host a Lunch and Learn program Dec. 4 featuring Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers, who will discuss “The Ripple Effect of Family Stability on Local Economies.”

The event begins at noon at Farmers Bank. Admission is \$15. Rogers will share her journey to the Family Court bench and explore how unstable families impact communities and local economies.

The program is sponsored by Edward Jones and H&H Home & Hardware.

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From the Press Archives – 50 Years Ago

Marion’s 1975 entry in the All Kentucky City program advanced to the state level following a district presentation at Kentucky Dam. Pictured are local Chamber of Commerce members and state judges for the competition. Pictured are (seated from left) Gary Williamson, district chairman; John Perkins of Kentucky Utilities, judge; Wayne Smythe of Kentucky Group Banks, judge; and Georgia Pittman, state Chamber program manager; (back) Paul Mick, Judy Winn, John Ramsey, Rev. Harold Person and Billy Wayne Jones, all representing the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce.

10 YEARS AGO

November 12, 2015

■ Crittenden County FFA members joined more than 60,000 youth at the National FFA Convention in Louisville. Students including Sharon Collins, Blake Curnel and Tyson Steele engaged in activities such as the career show and convention sessions. The convention aimed to inspire students to amplify their impact in their schools and communities.

■ Crittenden County’s defense dominated Caverna, forcing seven turnovers and leading the Rockets to a decisive 42-16 victory. Dylan Hollis was a star, scoring three touchdowns, and Devin Hopper recovered three fumbles. The Rockets were headed on the road to take on Bethlehem.

■ Teen Leadership Academy, or TLA, is a 4-H program that brings together youth from Crittenden, Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon and Trigg counties to develop leadership skills. In October, Crittenden County hosted a meeting that included a trip to the Amish community and the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum. The November meeting was held in Trigg County, where the youth hiked and visited the Nature Station at Land Between the Lakes. The group included Jacob Drawdy, Lynzee Lynn, Hannah Myers and Cameron Suggs.

25 YEARS AGO

November 16, 2000

■ Kent Koster, after serving as the interim chief financial officer of Crittenden Health Systems for two months, was appointed as the permanent CFO. With a master’s degree in business administration, Koster brought extensive experience, having previously worked at Western Baptist Hospital for nearly 20 years. He said he looked forward to protecting the assets of the organization to continue providing quality healthcare.

■ Steven James and Micheal Brasher earned Arrow of Light badges and joined Boy Scout Troop 30. The ceremony took place in Cave-In-Rock State Park. Brent Roberts and Cody Herrin conducted the ceremony. Wesley Hughes and Jamie Pyle also attended.

■ Amber Lowery, a 9-year-old from Marion, was the lucky winner of nearly 30 Teenie Beanie Babies after a Heritage Days drawing. The picture included Corey McEnaney, Kathy McEnaney, Joe McEnaney, Conner McEnaney, Valerie Winders and Chris McEnaney. Brian Stevenson won a new bicycle.

50 YEARS AGO

November 13, 1975

■ Marion-Crittenden County’s 1975 entry in the All-Kentucky City program advanced to the state level after the district presentation at Kentucky Dam. Gary Williamson, the district chairman, was seated with judges John Perkins and Wayne Smythe. Also present were Pittman, the state Chamber program manager, and others including Paul and Nancy Mick.

■ Crittenden County Middle School formed a journalism club, with Mrs. Jane Loyd as sponsor. Stephen Watson and Danny Drake presented Loyd with the first edition of the school newspaper. Club members were selected based on writing ability and classroom effort, and they planned to publish a quarterly school newspaper.

■ Crittenden County defeated Fulton County 13-8, securing its eighth victory of the season. The Rockets started strong with touchdowns by Mark Hamby and Danny Hodges, but Fulton County fought back. Despite a fumble recovery and touchdown by Fulton County, the Rockets held on for the win, with key plays from Jimmy Hodges and Pat Taylor.

STORE

Continued from page 1

show up while you were armed with nothing but a thermos and a Buck knife.

Speaking of thermoses, ours were glass-lined and dressed up in plaid that looked like somebody’s pajamas. Drop one from a tree stand, and it’d shatter into a thousand pieces, leaving you with no cof-

fee and a broken heart.

The smartphone is probably the deadliest technology to ever wreak havoc the whitetail population. When hunters were left to sit silently with only the memories etched on their souls and daydreams of glitter and gold, they were not inclined to shiver away the morning. Nowadays, coupled with battery-operated clothing, the cell phone provides phe-

nomenal staying power as it occupies the loneliness of hunting – a byproduct some of us actually long to find in the wilds.

So yeah, today’s hunters are a bit “Drug Store” by 1970’s standards – with their heated blinds, GPS scopes and battery-heated socks. But I’ll admit, those stainless mugs with tight lids sure keep my coffee

warm until about 8 a.m. And that’s just in time for a Vienna sausage break. See you afield, and watch your step, those two nails might not hold like they used to.

Chris Evans, a newspaperman since 1979, has been editor of The Press for more than 30 years and is the author of South of the Mouth of Sandy, a true story about crime along the Tennessee River. You can find it on Amazon or wherever books are sold.

KRATOM

Continued from page 1

say they are using it to supplement their actual drug use because kratom is legal. I’ve seen the same effects on people using kratom that would be if they were using illegal drugs.”

Local officers have been aware of kratom’s sale in Marion for some time. Law enforcement agencies across the region have pointed out that until now, the product’s legality had made it difficult to address despite its addictive properties and use by people seeking alternatives to opioids.

In his announcement last Wednesday, Gov. Beshear said the reclassification of 7-OH will help protect Kentuckians and reduce access to dangerous synthetic versions of the drug.

“We have marked three straight years of declines in overdose deaths in Kentucky, and that is progress we’re committed to building on,” Beshear said. “Deadly and addictive drugs like 7-OH have no place in our communities, and this step will help us get these drugs off the streets.”

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services is now updating

regulations to make concentrated 7-OH a Schedule I substance, which will allow police to remove products containing the compound from shelves statewide once the rule takes effect.

National anti-drug advocates applauded Beshear’s action. The Stop Gas Station Heroin coalition issued a statement calling it “a critical step toward curbing the spread of lab-made street drugs” and praised Kentucky for joining Florida and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in targeting concentrated 7-OH products.

The coalition said these synthetic versions, often disguised as herbal energy shots or gummies, can be “more than 13 times more potent than morphine.”

Public health officials have long cautioned against kratom and its derivatives. In June, the Kentucky Department for Public Health and Office of Drug Control Policy jointly issued a health alert warning of severe adverse reactions including seizures, liver toxicity and addiction.

Though kratom has been legal in Kentucky for adults 21 and over, it was never approved by the FDA. Efforts to tighten state restrictions during the 2025 legisla-

tive session failed to advance out of committee.

Lyon County Sheriff Brent White, who is a former Kentucky State Police captain and part of a west Kentucky crime-fighting coalition, said the governor’s order is a step in the right direction but not a complete solution.

“(Companies) literally change the variations all the time so it looks like the governor has taken the main component and tried to address it, but the problem with anything synthetic is that you can tweak the chemical composition ever so slightly and skirt the law. That’s the problem we’ve had for a long time.

“It’s still not a perfect fix,” White continued, “because the 7-OH is just one component that is found in kratom. There’s so many products that should be regulated but aren’t in these stores.”

White said that even though some products are packaged to look like kratom, it might technically be something else. Companies do that, he explains, because individuals have become addicted to kratom and companies take advantage of that by marketing a different synthetic substance as kratom.

The Crittenden Press

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Tain't what you say...

In 1939 Jimmie Lunceford recorded the classic jazz lyric, “Tain’t what you do, it’s the way that you do



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

both the source and the new sound it produces.

Back to the borrowed and changed lyric, “Tain’t

what you say...” We know the intended completion, “. . . “it’s the way that you say it.” Three things come to mind here. The first is one we all understand. How we choose to express ourselves, especially when we differ from another, is more important than what we say. It is possible to be factually cor-

rect and so emotionally off that one does more harm than good.

There is another thought in mind here. When we read the Bible, we are reading “music” produced in a context so massively different to our own that it is impossible to overemphasize. Some people and cultures are closer to it than others, but the distance for all of us is vast. The way we are raised, our culture, sometimes our ethnicity, education, economic resources all affect how we read the Bible. I recall a professor of mine, a white man from South Africa, pointing out that black South Africans (in the days of Apartheid) “got” Revelation much better than he ever would – and he was an academic expert in the field.

I must remember that whatever I say or sing that is based on the Bible is more like the Rolling Stones singing blues than Jimmie Lunceford singing a jazz song. Keeping this in mind gives me enough pause to challenge the first thing I think, or to accept popular attitudes. The Bible was not written by people who were citizens of mighty econom-

ic or military empires. In fact, it is possible that most of the Old Testament, as we have it, was put together during captivity in Babylon. This is why, I believe, that economically or racially oppressed populations “feel” scripture more than others who may “understand better.”

We need both in our lives. We need that beautiful fusion of sound that comes from genuine places in the heart of different people. We need to learn to respect and understand the context of others and hear the beauty of what they say and how they say it.

When I am singing or listening to a song that moves me, I do so with genuine feelings of humility, longing, pride, joy, or sadness. I am not trying to convince another person that I am right. I am sharing my life in that moment. When that is met with derision, mocking, or ignorance a gap is formed that should never have existed.

Finally, if we are not careful, we can land on exactly the wrong side of intent when quoting the Bible. For example, have you ever heard preached, “Unless you repent, you will likewise perish!”? I have heard this shouted at “sinners” that need to turn. While I believe that we need to turn away from wrong and do right, Jesus was talking to people who thought they were fine and wanted him to condemn others. I have heard preaching that pointed these verses in Luke 13 in exactly the wrong direction.

Tain’t what we say, it’s the way we say it. Aim corrective words at ourselves first, the rest will follow.

Dr. Sean Niestrath is a minister in Madisonville, Ky. He holds a doctoral degree in ministry. You may contact him at sean.niestrath@outlook.com.

Religious Outreach

- Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.
- Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others to enjoy.
- The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.
- Fredonia Unity Baptist Church’s

clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.

- First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.
- The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.
- Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.

Don't quit on the Christian faith; grow in it

Question: When we die, do we become angels in heaven or are we just souls flowing around up there?

Answers: While angels are glorious spiritual beings, we do not turn into them in heaven. When followers of Jesus Christ died, they are transformer into persons much more glorious than angels.

The moment we, Christians, take our last breath on earth we take our first in heaven. “To be away from the body (is to be) at home with the Lord” (2 Cor. 5:8). Our spirit and personality are immediately present with the Lord, but we will not be



disembodied, ghostly apparitions. Our loved ones will recognize us (Matt. 17:1-4). Then in God’s time, we receive our glorified bodies at the Second Coming of Christ. Our worn-out, dilapidated bodies will be renewed and changed, like that of the resurrected body of Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:21). Just like an ugly caterpillar is changed into a beautiful butterfly, we will be changed to be like our wonderful Christ (Phil. 3:21).

Our body will have no physical weakness or limitations of time or space. They will again be full of strength. Even though our bodies will be like Jesus’s, the supreme benefit will be to be with our loving Savior and Lord forever.

A vital question is: Are you prepared to meet the Master should He return or if you go to meet Him in death today? The only way to enjoy the benefits of a new glorified body after death is to trust Christ as your Lord and Savior (Jn. 14:6). If you haven’t done so, do it right now! Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

CRITTENDEN COUNTY FISCAL COURT PROCLAMATION – NOV. 9-15, 2025, NURSE PRACTITIONERS WEEK

Whereas, nurse practitioners (NPs) play a critical role as trusted providers of health care for patients in Kentucky; and

Whereas, NPs work to expand health care access in underserved communities and promote health equity in care; and

Whereas, patients depend on the more than 12,000 licensed NPs in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to diagnose, manage and treat their chronic and acute health care conditions; and

Whereas, NPs provide high-quality primary, acute and specialty health care services while emphasizing health promotion, disease prevention, health education and counseling, guiding patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices every day; and

Whereas, the confidence that patients have in NP-delivered health care is evidenced by the more than 1 billion visits made annually to NPs across our nation; and

Whereas, more than five decades of research demonstrate the high quality of care provided by NPs; and

Whereas, better utilization of NPs through modernized state laws and improved policies creates better health through a more accessible, efficient, cost-effective and higher-quality health care system; and

Whereas, leading governmental and policy entities, including the National Academy of Medicine, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, National Governors Association and Federal Trade Commission, have taken notice of the benefits of providing patients full and direct access to NP-delivered care; and

Whereas, NPs serve as the primary care provider of choice for many Kentuckians and play a pivotal role in the health and welfare of our communities; and

Whereas, Crittenden County is proud to recognize and honor the service of NPs to our county and state;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that I, Perry A. Newcom, do hereby declare Nov. 9–15, 2025, as Nurse Practitioner Week in Crittenden County in recognition of the countless contributions NPs have made over the past half century and will continue to make on behalf of the health and well-being of our citizens.

Signed:
Perry A. Newcom
Crittenden County Judge Executive
Date: Nov. 11, 2025

DID YOU KNOW?
Every month 80% of Kentucky adults read local print or digital newspapers.

73%
Total Digital Readers
(2.6 million)

60%
Total Print Readers
(2.2 million)

53%
Total Print & Digital Readers
(1.9 million)

We Are Proud To Be **Your Local Newspaper** *The* **Crittenden Press**

Source: The Kentucky State Study-2023 Conducted by: Coda Ventures, Base: Total adults, multiple responses

WORSHIP

with us this week

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH

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

St. William Catholic Church

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

Mexico Baptist Church

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

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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

Tolu Methodist Church

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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

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

Freedom General Baptist Church

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

Marion Baptist Church

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

Crooked Creek Baptist Church

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

Crayne Community Church

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

growing in grace

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

Marion Church of God

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

PINEY FORK

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

Sugar Grove

Cumberland Presbyterian
585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky.
Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Sun. Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Marion Methodist Church

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

Frances Community Church

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

Hurricane Church

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

Unity General Baptist Church

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

Marion Church of Christ

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

Autumn display of merchandise

Some interesting items in the old Crittenden Presses are of the advertisements that the pages were full of. In September 1925, the paper shared some of the businesses that had purchased ads in the paper. Through these little items we find history of our town and of the businesses that used to line the streets.

Autumn Display of Merchandise

Marion merchants are calling attention to their new stocks of fall goods. If anyone thinks that Marion is not an up to date town from the merchandising point of view, a look over the ads in this paper will dispel the delusion.

In the advertising columns you will find announcements of the latest arrivals at the stores of J. H. Mays & Sons, Yandell, Gugenheim Co., and C. W. Grady is advertising a special in overalls. Among the new things in dry goods this fall are hordered flannels, some exceptionally beautiful designs in crepes and satins.

In the shoe departments are to be found a new wide soft toe brogue for men, and women can find something new in pumps with buckles.

Overcoats are advertised by National Dry Cleaners, who take your measure and have them made to your order. Mr. L. E. Yates, proprietor of the National Dry Cleaners, has moved his pressing and hat blocking business from the Concrete building to the old post office building, where he has ample room to conduct his increased business. Mr. Yates has recently added to his equipment, a hat cleaning and blocking machine and is now prepared to do any business in the cleaning and pressing field.

New fall clothing arrivals are announced by Yandell-Gugenheim Co.

Automobiles advertised this week are Hudson, Essex, Chevrolet and Ford. These are distributed in the community by W. W. Runyan & Co., T. H. Cochran & Co. and Foster & Tucker, respectively. U. S. and Firestone Tires are advertised and sold by W. W. Runyan & Co and by T. H. Cochran & Co. The financing plan of General Motors occupies a full page advertised by T. H. Cochran & Co.

J. N. Boston and Sons, contractors, who are building the new Fohs Hall, carry a page ad telling that it is to be Better Built by Boston.

Woods and Walker advertise their superior insurance service.

The ads of Marion Furniture and Undertaking Co., McConnell &

Wiggins, and the Marion Barber Shop occupy their customary space describing the service they are prepared to render.

The two coal companies of Marion Coal Co., and W. Scott Paris Coal Co. advertise that it is time to be thinking of that when you will need a cheery fire.

More and more the businessmen of Marion are using the columns of The Press to tell their customers about what they have in their stores. It will pay you to read these ads for advertising is real business news.

Sept. 25, 1925 – Merchants Again Tell Their Story

New advertisers greet the readers of The Press this week.

Believing that the advertisements in The Press tell an interesting story each week, it will be our policy from time to time to call special attention to them through the news columns.

This week there are two full page ads – Carnahan's Store is telling you of their big fall opening, and T. H. Cochran and Co. of the Chevrolet way of buying an automobile. You will find a Hudson Essex ad, W. W. Runyan and Do., dealers.

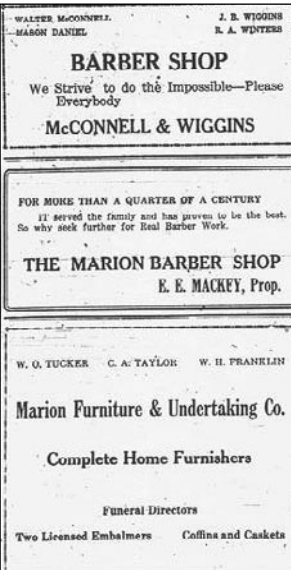
The National Dry Cleaners advertises its service in two places – one its cleaning and pressing and the other about repairing automobile curtains.

W. Scott Paris Coal Co. tells of the superiority of their coal, and Strouse and Brothers invites you to their clothing store.

The Chevrolet automobile is advertised and T. H. Cochran and Co. are the dealers, they also sell Firestone tires.

The new Overland closed model is advertised by Clark and Roberts.

Moore and Pickens calls attention to new fall hats and dresses. The store is decorated in autumn colors and a wealth of beautiful flowers. Some new items are blouses with vionette sleeves, tapering ones cut loosely at the waist, blouse backs, ruffled skirts and pleated skirts. These models, some of them in two piece styles, incorporate the fall shades, rosewood, valencia blue, channel red, jungle green, sandwood, navy, block, winter oak, and soft beige. The winter coats too are in a variety of designs, colors and materials. There are straight line coats, dolman effects with blouse backs and loose wrappy sleeves all shown in the smartest colors. Many models are found with lavish fur trimmings of



Some of the interesting ads that appeared in The Crittenden Press in 1925.

fur, fitch, brown martin, mink, squirrel, taupe fox and wolf.

J. H. Mayes and Sons want you to know what they have to offer in men's furnishing.

W. T. McConnell and Co. has an interesting advertisement about their new fall things, and the Marion Furniture and Undertaking Co. say they are the complete home furnishers. Their home furnishings will be displayed on the first floor and the undertaking parlor will be located on the second floor.

The Farmers Bank and Trust Co. tells how good a bank account will make you feel. They have recently remodeled their building, and it is now one of the best equipped banks in Kentucky. The building is made of red fire proof brick. The vaults are made of brick and concrete, reinforced by steel bars and the safety deposit vault is lined with sheet steel. The safety deposit vault contains more than 200 steel containers which are used by the bank's customers without cost to the customer.

And the Marland Refining Co. and the Gulf Refining Co. have something to tell you of their product.

Grady's say they have celery and lettuce at their place of business, and W. S. Lowery has some farms for rent.

The Yates Music Store advertises its pianos and Yandell Gugenheim Co. tells about fall clothing ad merchandise.

These people believe in their merchandise and are so confident that

you will be pleased with their service that they send money to ask you to come to see them.

J. R. Sowders, Marion's popular restaurant man and meat market proprietor, has purchased the store building on East Carlisle Street, just recently vacated by Rubin's Bargain Store.

The building is a handsome structure of fire-proof construction, built of face brick and concrete, and contains two stories and a basement. It is very well adapted for the businesses Mr. Sowders conducts and no doubt he will do a thriving business therein.

Many will remember that The Press office was formerly located in a building on the lot on which this store is situated, at that time owned by S. M. Jenkins. After the disastrous fire of 1919 had destroyed more than half of Marion's business district, the M. H. Cannan Co., erected the present building on the site and for a considerable period of time conducted a men's clothing and furnishing good store there. W. E. Cox later used it for restaurant purposes until "Jake" Rubin purchased the structure for his department store.

Mr. Sowers will be pleased to see his old customers at his new place and very likely will add a large number of news one in this new location. (This building is located next to the old post office/dry cleaners building and next to the ally way.)

Marion in its younger days was definitely the place to visit and shop. What a variety of stores with all kinds of merchandise was once here.

(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).



New Crop
PECANS
and
Walnut Pieces

Call Willard Guill
(270) 965-2495

Second Week
of the Month

SEARCH PUBLIC NOTICES published in Kentucky newspapers.

www.kypublicnotice.com

This website is provided by Kentucky's newspapers as a free service for the purpose of and engaging the citizens and maximizing the availability of this information.

Quarter auction to benefit ovarian cancer research

The Crittenden County Homemakers invite the community to a fun and meaningful afternoon at their Quarter Auction Fundraiser benefiting ovarian cancer research on Saturday, Nov. 15, at St. William Catholic Church Hall, 860 S. Main St., Marion. Doors will open at 1 p.m., and the auction begins at 2 p.m.

All proceeds will go directly toward ovarian cancer research. Attendees will also hear from a special guest speaker who will share personal insights and experiences about living with and supporting those affected by the disease. Teal is the color of ovarian cancer awareness. It symbolizes strength, hope and unity, and guests are encouraged to wear teal.

The event is hosted by the Crittenden County Homemakers, an organization of three local clubs and members-at-large with more than 50 active members dedicated to community service. A Quarter Auction combines elements of an auction, raffle and vendor fair. Attendees bid on items using quarters,

with prizes and products donated by local businesses and homemaker members. To participate, paddles can be purchased at the door for \$5 each, with additional paddles available to increase chances of winning. Participants should bring about \$15 in quarters per paddle for bidding.

Auction items will be displayed for preview at 1 p.m., and photos will also be shared on the Crittenden County Extension Office Facebook Page at facebook.com/CrittendenCountyExtensionService. During the auction, the announcer will call out how many quarters are needed to bid—usually one or two. Players drop their quarters into the table bucket for each paddle they want to play, then raise their paddles to enter the round. A numbered chip is drawn, and if it matches a player's paddle, they win the item.

It's a family-friendly event that brings the community together for a worthy cause. For more information, contact (270) 965-5236 or email HomemakerQuarterAuction@gmail.com. Event details can also be found online at facebook.com/CrittendenCountyExtensionService.

ATTENTION LAND OWNERS

KENTUCKY LAND IS IN DEMAND. REALIZE FULL MARKET VALUE IN THE SALE OF YOUR RECREATIONAL PROPERTY. WHITETAIL PROPERTIES OFFERS A DIVERSE PLATFORM OF SELLING OPTIONS INCLUDING CONVENTIONAL LISTINGS AND PROFESSIONAL AUCTION SERVICES. IT'S NO MISTAKE THAT LAND SELLERS ACROSS THE MIDWEST HAVE ENTRUSTED THEIR LAND SALE TO US. WHITETAIL PROPERTIES HAS AN EXTENSIVE NETWORK AND CLIENT BASE THAT REACHES THE ENTIRE NATION AND INCLUDES FARMERS, SPORTSMEN, INVESTORS AND HUNTING PROFESSIONALS.

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT KENTUCKY LAND SPECIALIST, MARK WILLIAMS (270) 836-0819

NEW! Crittenden County, KY – 8.51 Acres - \$199,900
This 8.51+/- acre property with shop, utilities, and open ground in Crittenden County, Kentucky is a great investment or business location with plenty of space for expansion and equipment.

NEW! Crittenden County, KY – 20.50 Acres - \$100,450
This 20.5+/- acre tract in Crittenden County, Kentucky offers diverse timber, food plot potential, established trails, and excellent deer and turkey hunting habitat with build site opportunities.

NEW! Crittenden County, KY – 30.91 Acres - \$151,459
This 30.91+/- acres in Crittenden County, Kentucky offers prime deer and turkey hunting with food plot potential, diverse timber, trail system, and build site opportunities.

REDUCED! Crittenden County, KY – 13.42 Acres - \$649,900
This stunning hobby farm offers the perfect blend of comfort, space, and functionality in a quiet rural setting. Includes a 6-bedroom, 4-bathroom home, two-car attached garage, two shops and a barn.

Crittenden County, KY – 12.42 Acres - \$357,500
This 12.42+/- acre tract features a brick 3 bed/2 bath one-level home with stainless steel appliances, island kitchen, covered porch and back patio. Also includes a barn, fenced pasture, workshop, and mixed use opportunities.

Crittenden County, KY – 16.41 Acres - \$335,000
This 16.41+/- acres near Marion features a 3 bed/2 bath, 1,760 sq. ft. home with new metal roof, open concept, stainless steel appliances, partial covered deck, 3-car garage, two ponds, and pasture and woods mix.

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

Crittenden Co. KY 175 Acres - \$774,900
This 175+/- acres in Crittenden County includes a rustic 2BR, 1BA cabin, food plots, blinds, ponds, Coeffield Creek, and diverse habitat. Prime layout for whitetail and turkey hunting with multiple access points.

Crittenden Co. KY 401.50 Acres - \$2,290,000
401+/- acres in Crittenden County with a 4BR lodge, proven hunting history, food plots, blinds, creeks, pond, and diverse habitat managed for trophy deer and turkey. Turn-key and ready to hunt.

Crittenden & Union Counties, KY – 4,291 Acres – OFFERED IN MULTIPLE TRACTS – CONTACT AGENT!
With various landscapes, fantastic habitat variations, proven history, and multiple lodges with various improvements, this is your chance at a once in a lifetime opportunity! A part of this listing is under contract – contact agent.

Crittenden Co. & Webster Co. KY 159.913 Acres - \$499,000
This 159+/- acre property in Crittenden and Webster Counties includes a 2BR home, garage, 2.35 miles of Tradewater River frontage, WRP habitat, blinds, food plot sites and proven hunting history.

Livingston County, KY – 88 Acres - \$288,200.00
Livingston County, KY – 105 Acres – \$357,000.00
Livingston County, KY – 159 Acres - \$520,725.00
Livingston County, KY – 161 Acres - \$547,400.00
Livingston County, KY – 353 Acres - \$1,129,600.00
Livingston County, KY – 718 Acres - \$2,243,750.00
Livingston County, KY - 989 Acres - \$3,016,450.00
These tracts are part of a trophy-managed hunting community designed for like-minded hunters dedicated to growing and hunting mature deer.

PENDING! Crittenden County, KY – 2 Acres - \$35,000
This 2+/- acre commercial lot in Marion city limits features flat terrain with shade trees, 700 feet of road frontage, utilities, and a prime build site near the park.

SOLD! Crittenden Co. KY 0.50 Acre - \$144,900
Three-bed, 1.5-bath home with open living area, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, newer roof, carport, storage, yard, washer/dryer access on half-acre lot in Marion city limits.

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 13.99 Acres - \$124,900
This 13+/- acres includes a 3BR, 2BA home in Crittenden County, quiet rural setting with outbuildings, yard, food plot areas, timbered ridges, and deer and turkey hunting opportunities.



WHITETAIL PROPERTIES REAL ESTATE

HUNTING | RANCH | FARM | TIMBER

WWW.WHITETAILPROPERTIES.COM

TROPHY PROPERTIES REAL ESTATE | DBA WHITETAIL PROPERTIES
LICENSED IN ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS,
KENTUCKY, MISSOURI, DAN PEREZ, BROKER
108 N. MONROE | PITTSFIELD, IL 62363 | 217.285-9000

WATER

Continued from page 1

modest, the district's new rate order includes significant changes to tap-on fees, but a reduction in some service fees. Charges for new connections will jump sharply to better reflect the actual cost of installation. For example, the standard 5/8-inch residential tap-on will increase from \$750 to \$1,950, more than double the previous rate.

Water district superintendent Abbie Adamson said the previous fees had been a net loss for the district, as the cost of labor, materials and compliance often exceeded what customers paid to establish new service.

The PSC's decision follows a June 2024 rate study by Kentucky Rural Water Association that found the district needed more than \$500,000 in

additional annual revenue to meet its projected expenses. PSC staff recommended a smaller adjustment after reclassifying some maintenance expenses as capital improvements and questioning certain administrative costs.

CLWD serves about 3,700 customers in Crittenden and Livingston counties. Its ongoing three-phase expansion project will eventually double water treatment capacity from 2 million to 4 million gallons per day. The district's board of directors on Monday hired an engineer on the expansion project's final phase, which will include running a new water line under the Cumberland River and building new distribution lines between the plant at Pinckneyville to Salem and from Salem to Marion.

Customers will notice the higher rates on bills mailed in January.



Register before harvesting deer at Hodges Sports & Apparel in Marion to be eligible for the

\$1,000 CASH JACKPOT

Award made after Jan. 15



Sponsored by
Hodge's
Sports & Apparel

For More Information and Contest Rules call 1-800-755-0361 or Visit Online at www.MarionKentucky.org



TEAM KENTUCKY

FOOTBALL

Playoff scores of Interest

Here are results of area teams in last week’s playoff opener.

- Class 1A**
Bethlehem 66, Fulton County 30
KY Country Day 56, Caverna 16
- Class 2A**
Hancock Co. 41, Caldwell County 0
Owensboro Cath 61, Ft. Campbell 7
- Class 3A**
Murray 45, Adair County 8
Hart County 42, Hopkins Central 12
Glasgow 56, Webster County 0

- Class 4A**
Elizabethtown 42, Calloway County 7
Paducah Tilghman 28, Taylor County 0
- Class 5A**
Bowling Green 42, Graves County 0
Greenwood 21, Madisonville 18
- Class 6A**
McCracken Co. 46, Central Hardin 7
Hopkinsville 60, Daviess County 20
Henderson County 42, Meade Co. 7

- This Week’s Playoff Games**
- Class 1A**
Bethlehem at Campbellsville
Louisville Holy Cross at KCD
- Class 2A**
Crittenden at Owensboro Catholic
Hancock County at Mayfield
Bracken County at Breathitt County
Danville at Somerset
Knott County Central at Prestonsburg
Martin County at Belfry
Monroe County at Lexington Christian
Walton-Verona at Beechwood
- Class 3A**
Hart County at Murray
Union County at Glasgow
- Class 4A**
Franklin-Simpson at Tilghman
Logan County at Elizabethtown
- Class 5A**
Greenwood at Owensboro
Apollo at Bowling Green
- Class 6A**
Henderson Co. at McCracken County
Hopkinsville at South Warren

BASKETBALL

Middle school results

- Here is scoring from recent Crittenden County Middle School games.
- 7th Grade Lady Rockets**
Crittenden 33, Union 22
M.Penn 4, Nelson 2, Hearrell 7, Mattingly 10, Binkley 6, K. Penn 4.
- Crittenden 36, Lyon 24**
M.Penn 8, Nelson 5, Hearrell 12, Mattingly 6, Binkley 2, Moss 3.

- 7th Grade Rockets**
Crittenden 57, Livingston 30
Crittenden: Moss 31, Martin 6, Polk 8, Merrill 2, Taylor 8, Palmer 2.
Livingston: Johnson 7, Williams 13, Paris 6, Day 4.
- 8th Grade Lady Rockets**
Crittenden 43, Union 24
Louden 10, M. Penn 8, Nelson 11, Hearrell 2, Mattingly 8, Binkley 4.
- Lyon 41, Crittenden 13.**
M.Penn 1, Nelson 11, Hearrell 1.
- 8th Grade Rockets**
Crittenden 62, Livingston 11
Crittenden: Myers 11, Sherer 11, Adamson 6, Brown 8, Maraman 8, Moss 12, Merrill 2, Polk 2, Topp 2.
Livingston: Johnson 5, Jeffre 2, Ross 2, Land 2.

High school scrimmages

The Lady Rockets will scrimmage Daviess County at 3 p.m., Saturday at Madisonville then host a multi-team scrimmage on Nov. 22 at Rocket Arena when they will play Caldwell County, Tilghman and Allen County-Scottsville. Crittenden’s boys will also host a multi-team scrimmage series on Nov. 22. They will play a Paducah-area homeschool team, Hickman County, Fulton City and Caldwell County.

VOLLEYBALL

Correction on awards

Information in last week’s Press incorrectly stated that Crittenden County senior Lilah Sherer had been named the Second Region Volleyball Player of the Year. In fact, she was the District Player of the Year and was also named to the All Second Region Team.

OUTDOORS

Hunting Seasons

- Here are some of the most common hunting opportunities currently in season or coming up:
- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Coyote night, no lights | July 1 - Nov 30 |
| Deer archery | Sept 6 - Jan 19 |
| Turkey archery | Sept 6 - Jan 19 |
| Deer crossbow | Sept 20 - Jan 19 |
| Raccoon | Oct 1 - Feb 28 |
| Deer gun | Nov 8-23 |
| Turkey crossbow | Nov 8 - Dec 31 |
| Bobcat trapping | Nov 10 - Feb 28 |
| Squirrel | Nov 10 - Feb 28 |
| Quail | Nov 10 - Feb 10 |
| Rabbit | Nov 10 - Feb 10 |
| Raccoon trapping | Nov 10 - Feb 28 |
| Woodcock | Nov 10 - Dec 10 |
| Coyote trapping | Nov 10 - Feb 28 |

Another comeback lifts Rockets in postseason

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County will hit the road this week to face its biggest challenge of the season – a regional semifinal matchup at Owensboro Catholic, the state’s top-ranked Class 2A team.

The Aces (11-0) have dominated this series historically, holding a 13-0 record against Crittenden, including five playoff victories since 2012. None have been close. Yet, the Rockets (8-3) ride into Friday’s contest with momentum and belief after knocking off McLean County 28-20 in last week’s opening-round playoff game at Rocket Stadium.

Two Rockets who have been steady contributors all season paired up for perhaps the biggest play of the year – certainly the most significant on Friday night – as kicker Mitchell Brown and Noah Byford painted McLean County out of the playoff picture with one fell swoop.

It was a third-quarter blow that allowed Crittenden County to score twice in 17 seconds and build a two-touchdown lead that held up for a 28-20 victory, launching the Rockets into this week’s regional semifinal at Owensboro Catholic.

McLean County’s old-school pound-on-the-ground offense was punching all the right buttons early in front of a huge Class 2A playoff crowd at Rocket Stadium. Controlling the ball and the clock with long possessions on two scoring drives gave McLean an early 14-0 lead. The typically dynamic Rocket offense was left stranded on the sideline while the Cougars churned away behind their single-wing and wing-T formations. The game of keep-away was working like a charm as CCHS was able to run only five offensive plays in the entire first period.

Rocket quarterback Quinn Summers and all-time receiving leader Caden Howard broke the hometown silence with a 55-yard touchdown strike. Shortly thereafter, Crittenden began solving the Cougars’ ground attack and held on a key fourth down at its own 8-yard line with 2:07 to go in the half. Summers guided CCHS all the way downfield and capped a 92-yard drive with a 10-yard passing play to running back Trae Taylor – his first of two TDs in the game.

Crittenden flipped the script in the second half as its defense continued to set the tone with senior linebacker Brayden Poindexter’s 15 solo tackles key in stopping McLean twice in the red zone. Meanwhile, Summers found junior receiver Davis Perryman on an 8-yard scoring pass early in the third quarter that set up the key play from the BBs – Brown and Byford – on the ensuing kick-off.

A pooch kick down the home sideline off Brown’s foot was perfectly placed, and Byford raced to the spot where the ball ricocheted off a McLean player. The Rocket junior scooped it up inches before it rolled out of bounds. The play set up Crittenden’s final touchdown – Summers’ 37-yard pass to Taylor – and effectively put the game out of reach of McLean’s methodical running game. Cougar quarterback Aden Bolden passed only four times, completing one and throwing one interception – picked off by Howard.

“We had to kick it to a spot where the field was kind of weak. It was a desperate play, it was a really close game,” said Byford, whose recovery provided enough spark to fuel another comeback win – the team’s third in four weeks.

Although the Rockets punted on their final three possessions, they’d built ample cushion with four straight scoring drives over the second and third quarters. Crittenden’s defense handled the rest, holding the Cougars to just 74 rushing yards in the second half after they’d piled up 186 before intermission.

“It’s been a great home stretch,” Coach Gaige Courtney said as his team has won six of its last seven games, and half of those victories have come on their home turf. “McLean is a tough, gritty team, and we expected it to be tough. The defense really stepped it up after halftime, and Mitchell Brown’s pooch kick that Noah Byford recovered to give us an extra possession was huge – a great play by both of them.”

The Rockets’ reward is a trip to Owensboro, where they’ll face an unbeaten powerhouse that crushed Fort Campbell 61-7 last week. Crittenden will enter Friday’s regional semifinal against some big odds, but also with a building sense of worth and sharp resilience on its side.



The Crittenden County defense was remarkable in the second half Friday, holding McLean County’s powerful running attack to just 79 yards and stopping it twice in the red zone for a playoff victory at Rocket Stadium.

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SCORE BY QUARTERS				
McLean County	8	6	0	6



Crittenden County 0 14 14 0

SCORING PLAYS

M-Hunter Stratton 4 run (Stratton run) 1:14, 1st
M-Charles Walker 2 run (run failed) 4:16, 2nd
C-Caden Howard 55 pass from Quinn Summers (Mitchell Brown kick) 8:18, 2nd
C-Trae Taylor 10 pass from Summers (Brown kick) :36, 2nd
C-Davis Perryman 8 pass from Summers (Brown kick) 9:53, 3rd
C-Taylor 37 pass from Summers (Brown kick) 9:36, 2nd
M-Walker 11 run (run failed) 3:37, 4th

TEAM TOTALS

First Downs: CCHS 14, MCHS 14
Penalties: CCHS 3-30, MCHS 5-40
Rushing: CCHS 13-62, MCHS 56-260
Passing: CCHS 20-32-1, 267; MCHS 1-4-1, 24
Total Yards: CCHS 329, MCHS 284
Fumbles/Lost: CCHS 1-1, MCHS 2-1

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing
CCHS: Summers 9-59, Taylor 4-3. MCHS: Walker 25-132, Raylen Tate 12-79, Stratton 10-31, Aden Bolden 6-18.

Passing
CCHS: Summers 20-32-1, 267. MCHS: Bolden 1-4-1, 24.

Receiving
CCHS: Howard 7-113, Taylor 5-69, Eli Lovell 6-69, Perryman 2-16.

Defense
Brandsasse 7 solos, 3 assists; Hall 2 solos, 2 assists; Howard 4 solos, 3 assists, interception; Pierson solo, assist; Poindexter 15 solos, 6 assists, TFL; Sosh solo, 2 assists; Stevenson 3 solos; Taylor assist; Byford 4 solos, TFL, fumble recovery; Lovell 5 solos, 2 assists; A.Rich 4 solos, 2 assists; Bumpus 8 solos, 5 assists, TFL.

Players of the Game: Offense Quinn Summers, Defense Brayden Poindexter, Lineman Jake Rich, Special Teams Noah Byford and Mitchell Brown.

Records: CCHS 8-3, MCHS 5-6

Lady Rocket Volleyball Awards

Crittenden County’s varsity volleyball girls were honored last weekend during the post-season ceremony. Award winners are (front from left) Lilah Sherer, Assist and Senior awards; Aly Yates, Defense and Heart of a Rocket awards; Hadley Myers, Senior Award; Ava Tabor, Rising Rocket Award; Lacey Boone, Ace, Offense and Senior awards; (back) Coach Bayley McDonald, Braelyn Merrill, Offense Award; Grayson Travis, Triple Threat and Block awards; Layken Gilchrist, Character Award; and Maddie Hearrell, MVP Award.

JUNIOR PRO STATS

3rd - 4th Graders
Jamboree Semifinal
Rockets 13, Hopkins County 0
Rushing: Colton James 20-91, Ayden Oliver 13-96.
Receiving: Boone Tabor 1-4; Dagen Taylor 1-(-4).
Passing: Oliver 2-4-0, 0.
Defense: Koleson Tinsley 4 solos, 2 assists, TFL, forced fumble; Chase Winders 3 solos, 3 TFL; Dagen Taylor 2 solos, 3 assists, fumble recovery; Blake Sitar 2 solos, 2 assists, 2 TFL; Beckett Hunt 2 solos, assist, 2 TFL; Colton James 2 solos, assist, interception; Hayden Atwell solo; Jake Morse solo; B.Tabor assist; Ayden Oliver fumble recovery; Grayson Congenie fumble recovery.

Jamboree Championship
Rockets 6, Caldwell 0
Rushing: James 13-37, Oliver 9-85. **Passing:** Oliver 7-10-0, 35. **Receiving:** Taylor 2-17, Congenie 1-13, Tabor 4-5. **Defense:** James 3 solos, 2 assists, 2 TFL; Tinsley 3 solos, 1 assists; Hunt 2 solos, 2 assists; Congenie 2 solos, TFL, interception; Morse 2 solos, 1 assists; Taylor solo, 5 assists; Sitar solo, assist, TFL; Oliver solo; Tabor assist.



Crittenden County Middle School softball varsity award winners are (front from left) Whitley Lovan, Aria Kinnis, Danielle Farmer, Aubrianna Copeland, London McCord, (back) Addie Nelson, Mela Kate Penn, Brooklyn Lovell, Karlee Jent, Kinley Copeland, Isabel Geary and Fiona Loudon.

CCMS JV award winners are (front from left) Elizabeth Greenwell, Whitley Loven, Scarlett Bock, Emma Shae Holland, (back) Kora Beth Penn, London McCord, Mattie Moss and Bradie Hackney.



Varsity

MVPs - Karlee Jent & Addie Nelson
End of Season Award - Mela Penn
Best Pitcher - Brooklyn Lovell
Best Catcher - Fiona Loudon
Best Outfielder - Addie Nelson
Best Infielder - Karlee Jent
Best Team Player - Danielle Farmer
Best Offensive Player - Fiona Loudon
Best Attitude - Isabel Geary
Most Improved - Aubrianna Odom
Silver Slugger - Brooklyn Lovell / Fiona Loudon
Most Versatile - Mela Penn
Golden Glove - Danielle Farmer / Mela Penn
Best Teammate - Isabel Geary
Team Clown - Kinley Copeland
Eagle Eye - Karlee Jent / Fiona Loudon
True Grit - Aria Kinnis
110% Award - Danielle Farmer
Love of the Game - London McCord
Iron Arm Reliever - Whitley Lovan

Junior Varsity

MVP - Whitley Lovan
End of Season Award - Mattie Moss
Best Pitcher - Whitley Lovan
Best Catcher - Callie Hildebrand (not pictured)
Best Outfielder - Scarlett Bock
Best Infielder - Catelynn Maddux (not pictured)
Best Team Player - Bradie Hackney
Best Offense - Kaylynn Little (not pictured)
Best Attitude - Blakelee Gardner (not pictured)
Most Improved - Elizabeth Greenwell
Silver Slugger - Scarlett Bock
Most Versatile - EmmaShae Holland
Golden Glove - London McCord
Best Teammate - EmmaShae Holland
Team Clown - Blakelee Gardner (not pictured)
Eagle Eye - Kora Belle Penn
True Grit - Catelynn Maddux (not pictured)
110% Award - Blakelee Gardner (not pictured)
Love of the Game - Kaylynn Little (not pictured)
Iron Arm Reliever - London McCord

One bullet One Booner

STAFF REPORT

With modern firearm deer season getting underway last weekend, few stories better capture the thrill of the chase than the one that unfolded last fall near Frances – a tale that ended with a Boone and Crockett buck and a lifelong memory.

By all accounts, the big whitetail roaming the fields and hollows in southern Crittenden County was no ordinary deer. He was a heavy-racked nomad, showing up on cameras more than a mile apart and sparring with smaller bucks as if to remind every hunter who ruled the ridge. For a couple of years, word of his wide frame and towering tines spread through the local hunting community. By the fall of 2024, he had become the shared obsession of

two long-time friends.

One of them, real estate broker and avid outdoorsman Jim DeFreitas, would finally close the chapter.

DeFreitas, who splits time between Kentucky and Alabama, tagged the massive 13-point on his 182-acre Frances farm last November. The deer green-scored 175% inches, qualifying for the Boone and Crockett Club’s all-time record book. It was the first of his hunting career to reach that mark – a milestone for any serious whitetail hunter.

The hunt nearly didn’t happen. On the Monday before Thanksgiving, DeFreitas returned to Kentucky and realized he’d left the magazine for

his Browning .308 at home in Alabama. That left him with one round in the chamber and a single loose cartridge in his pocket.

Still, he made time to hunt. The day before Thanksgiving, he ran into his friend and neighbor Tony Travis, who told him he’d taken a high shot with a bow at the same deer two weeks earlier. A faint blood trail had given him hope, but after a long search, he feared the buck might not have survived.

Thanksgiving Day dawned windy and still. DeFreitas hunted from daylight until late afternoon without seeing much movement. Then,

around 4:30 p.m., the big deer stepped out at just over 200 yards. The does he had been following were hidden in a creek bottom, but the buck stood broadside.

DeFreitas raised his rifle, knowing he had one chance. He fired at 211 yards. The deer bolted, stumbled, then disappeared over a rise. With no magazine to reload quickly, DeFreitas slid in his last bullet and hurried to track. Blood sign lifted his hopes, and minutes later he found the giant lying just inside the timber, both lungs pierced, the hunt complete.

He called Travis, who arrived soon after. One glance confirmed it was the same deer. A scar marked where the broadhead had entered weeks earlier. Tough as they come, the buck had survived

the wound and kept roaming. Travis had even saved the buck’s sheds from previous seasons and had trail-camera photos in velvet from the summer before.

For DeFreitas, the moment was surreal – the culmination of decades chasing trophy deer. At an estimated 5½ to 6½ years old, the “Frances Monster,” as locals have come to call him, embodied Kentucky’s trophy potential.

Travis said he couldn’t have imagined a better ending. “I’m just glad Jim got him,” he told The Press. “It’s better than never knowing what happened to that deer.”

Today, the Frances Monster hangs on DeFreitas’ wall, a reminder of one November evening when luck, persistence and a single bullet brought a legend to rest.



Jim DeFreitas with his buck



Tony Travis with the deer's sheds from the previous year

Local Deer Harvests Looking Back

Crittenden County's annual deer harvest broken down into male and female, percentage of harvest that was female and the county's overall harvest rank compared to other Kentucky counties.



YEAR	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	% FEMALE	KY RANK
2024	1,332	1,280	2,612	49.0%	No. 8
2023	1,334	1,334	2,668	50.0%	No. 4
2022	1,297	1,410	2,707	52.1%	No. 5
2021	1,380	1,367	2,747	49.8%	No. 5
2020	1,438	1,528	2,996	51.0%	No. 3
2019	1,572	1,926	3,498	55.1%	No. 3
2018	1,509	1,793	3,302	54.3%	No. 2
2017	1,634	1,817	3,451	52.7%	No. 1
2016	1,552	1,529	3,081	49.6%	No. 3
2015	1,684	1,675	3,359	49.9%	No. 3
2014	1,606	1,618	3,224	50.2%	No. 3
2013	1,543	1,490	3,033	49.1%	No. 3
2012	1,433	1,577	3,010	52.4%	No. 2
2011	1,293	1,536	2,829	54.3%	No. 3
2010	1,302	1,650	2,952	55.9%	No. 2
2009	1,304	1,245	2,549	48.8%	No. 4
2008	1,174	1,533	2,707	56.6%	No. 2
2007	1,249	1,678	2,927	57.3%	No. 2
2006	1,436	1,649	3,085	53.5%	No. 2
2005	1,043	1,550	2,593	59.8%	No. 2
2004	1,276	1,756	3,032	57.9%	No. 2
2003	1,138	1,448	2,586	56.0%	No. 2
2002	1,170	1,538	2,708	56.8%	No. 2
2001	1,015	1,257	2,272	55.3%	No. 2
2000	1,069	1,528	2,597	58.8%	No. 2

HUNT

Continued from page 1

the majority of funding comes from the sale of licenses and permits that have not seen a resident increase since 2018 and federal excise taxes, he added. Implementing CPI price adjustments enhances transparency and will help the agency keep pace with industry costs to ensure fiscally sound operation of the agency and fulfillment of its mission for generations to come, Jenkins said.

Several fee changes also took effect immediately. A reduced-cost sportsman’s license is now available to resident first-time buyers, defined as people who have not purchased an annual Kentucky hunting or fishing license, or a combination license that includes an annual license, since 1996. Priced at \$35, the license bundles a resident hunting and fishing license, spring turkey permit, fall turkey permit, trout permit, state migratory bird and waterfowl permit and a statewide deer permit.

To hunt bobcats, a \$10 permit is now required; previously, the permit was free. The motorboat registration fee structure has been simplified so that fees

This Season’s Take

Opening weekend, Crittenden County hunters harvested about 550 deer, according to Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources data. That’s up from last year’s opening weekend total. In 2024, hunters took roughly 300 deer on opening morning, but only about 250 this year. However, numbers rebounded as a cold front moved in Sunday, spurring more movement.

are based solely on vessel length. Amendments also changed fees for boat manufacturers and dealers, as well as licenses for hunting and fishing guides and outfitters.

In the past, fees changed unpredictably. Under the new approach, adjustments are intended to be smaller and more consistent. Licenses, tags and permits for the 2026-27 license year go on sale Dec. 1. Because CPI-based adjustments are scheduled for January, hunters and anglers can take advantage of lower pricing by purchasing 2026-27 licenses and permits in December.

KDFWR encourages sportsmen and women to not delay and consider buying their 2026-27 licenses and permits in December.

Purchases may be made through the My Profile app on the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife website fw.ky.gov. For questions, the public may refer to the Licenses webpage, type “Licenses” into the site’s search bar or contact the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Information Center at 800-858-1549 or info.center@ky.gov weekdays 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., except holidays.



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Taking Shape

It will be another 18 months before the new courthouse will be ready to occupy, but construction is picking up steam in downtown Marion with the arrival of a large crane last week. If you drive by it every day, perhaps the subtle changes are not as noticable, but work is proceeding on schedule thanks to fortuitous fall weather. Pinnacle Inc., of Benton is the general contractor. A live video link to see what's happeneng daily is available at The-Press.com.

Bridges are key public project priorities

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom says he has submitted applications for more than \$2.2 million in state bridge funding ahead of the Nov. 14 deadline.

Through the City/County Bridge Improvement Program (CCBIP), Newcom requested \$2,263,821.35 to replace four county bridges, two on Nunn Switch Road, one on Copperas Springs Road and another on Jackson School Road.

All four bridges were recommended for replacement by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's District 1 bridge inspector due to reduced weight limits and poor condition ratings. Two of the bridges are currently restricted to



Decking was recently poured on part of the Dam 50 bridge.

3 tons.

Newcom said he moved forward with the applications to highlight local infrastructure needs and ensure legislators are aware of the county's bridge conditions.

Just last week, the county held a speical meeting where magistrates approved a resolution and conducted other formalities necessary to receive \$550,000 in state bridge grant funds to replace a Mexico Road bridge over Claylick Creek, which has been out and the road closed at the crossing since March. Newcom said it would likely be next summer before that bridge replacement project begins.

A bridge over Crooked Creek on Dam 50 Road (KY 387) has been closed for months, but should open back up sometime next month. And, another is being replaced on a state highway KY 2123 in the Glendale Church area. It should be finished this month.

OCTOBER 2025

Weather Yearbook

Coldest Temp

33.5

Fri., Oct. 24

Warmest Temp

88

Thur., Oct. 2

Wettest Day

2.77

Thur., Oct. 7

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Average Temp	61.1	61.4	59.8	57.4	63.8	56.9
Coldest Temp	33.5	32.4	24.2	29.6	39.8	33.88
Hottest Temp	88.0	87.2	86.2	81	85.1	81.9
Precipitation	5.8	0.7	2.3	1.6	3.2	7.9
Wettest Day	2.77	0.47	1.08	0.93	1.06	2.7

■ Weather in Crittenden County last month was about normal for October, according to data from the local Mesonet weather station located near Mattoon. The month brought classic fall conditions to the area with an average temperature of 61.1 degrees, right in line with seasonal norms. The warmest day hit 88 degrees, while the coldest morning dipped to 33.5. Rainfall was above average for the month, totaling 5.8 inches, with 2.77 inches falling on the wettest day. Overall, the month was mild but wetter than usual, wrapping up one of the more seasonable Octobers in recent years.



Veteran Salute

Kindergarteners KJ Allen, Baird Cosby, Delta Day and Taylyn McIntosh had a front-row seat and some fancy headgear during Crittenden County School District's Veterans Day program Tuesday. Pictured top right, Boy Scout Caleb Harris presents speaker and veteran Chad Nelson with a folded American flag. Clockwise from there, veteran Ron Harbor is recognized for his service; other veterans and their families help fill Rocket Arena; and Nelson delivers the keynote address during the hour-long program.



MOVIE NIGHT @MBC

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 15TH
DOORS OPEN 5PM
MOVIE STARTS 6PM

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FALL Home



Got a big to-do list? Find local help here! Thursday, November 6, 2025 | Page 1B

Rural western Kentucky housing: Affordable but scarce

Housing in rural western Kentucky is as varied as the landscape itself. In Crittenden and neighboring Livingston counties, affordability remains one of the region's biggest advantages, yet both communities face a similar challenge with limited availability. While Crittenden's market is small and steady, Livingston's is shaped by its lakes, where second homes and waterfront views can command prices unseen elsewhere in the two counties.

Crittenden County's housing market remains

It has been 10 years since Marion's last formal study on housing availability. In 2015 an analysis found that among Marion's 1,570 housing units, 778 were owned (50%), 442 were rentals 28%, vacant homes accounted for 189 units or 12%, there were 161 (10%) empty lots, nine homes in foreclosure and at the time there were 14 condemned properties.

grounded in the modest, practical values typical of small rural towns. Accord-

ing to data from Zillow, the typical home in the county is valued around \$128,000, a figure that has slipped about 4 percent over the past year after gains in 2023. The median listing price is higher, about \$215,000, but that figure reflects a limited number of active listings, just 33 homes were for sale across the entire county this fall, according to available data. That scarcity keeps prices relatively stable but makes it difficult for new

HOUSING — Continued on 3B



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'reate space with a garage conversion

A need for more space compels many a homeowner to consider home renovations each year. While some homeowners decide to pull up stakes and move after realizing they need more room to maneuver at home, a real estate market marked by low inventory and high prices has made it more affordable for many homeowners to stay put and convert existing spaces.

A garage conversion project is one way for homeowners to create more space in their current properties. Homeowners considering such renovations can benefit from a look at what a garage conversion entails and what to expect when the project is completed.

A new floor will likely be part of the project. Whether you're converting the garage into a living space or simply hoping to make it look nicer as a workshop or artist's studio, the existing floor will likely need to be replaced. Many garages feature concrete flooring, which cracks easily (homeowners considering a garage renovation may already see cracks in an existing floor). When converting a garage, renovation experts will undoubtedly advise releveling the existing floor. Some will recommend a polyaspartic floor installation. Various garage conversion experts note that polyaspartic flooring is ideal for garage spaces because it's durable, resistant to damage that can be caused by chemicals and offers much more aesthet-



ically appealing than a concrete floor.

- The room will need ventilation and heating and cooling. A garage used for traditional purposes (i.e., parking cars, storing lawn and garden tools, etc.) likely will not be connected to a home's existing HVAC system and may not feature a window that can be opened or closed to allow for fresh air to enter the space. The space will need ventilation and heating and cooling capabilities if it's being converted.
- Location and climate bear consideration. Before going forward with a garage conversion, homeowners should consider where they live and the local climate. Homeowners living in urban areas where parking is at a premium may be doing themselves (and future owners) a disservice by converting

a space where they can presently park a vehicle into something else. In addition, people living in locales where outdoor activities like surfing, kayaking and cycling are popular will have to determine where items necessary for such activities will be stored if they decide to convert their garages into living spaces. Of course, garage renovation teams can incorporate storage into a design, so homeowners should not hesitate to discuss their lifestyle with contractors to ensure the room accommodates their hobbies after the conversion is complete.

- Zoning laws may or may not affect the project. Laws vary depending on where homeowners live, so it's impossible to say with certainty if homeowners will or won't run into zoning issues during

a project. However, the design of the finished product may offer hints as to any permit-related hurdles homeowners may need to clear. For example, if the garage doors are staying and the space behind those doors is merely being converted with a new floor and other amenities that won't change the look or function of the space, then homeowners may not encounter any permit issues. A need for permits and some restrictions may emerge if garage doors are being replaced by a new wall so the exterior space seamlessly blends in with the rest of the home. Investigate any potential restrictions prior to going forward.

Garage conversions can be a great way to add functional space to a property without building on to an existing home.

HOUSING

Continued from 1B

ers to find an entry point. Homeownership remains high at 77 percent, many residents live in single-family homes that have been passed down or retained within families for decades. The county's housing stock totals roughly 13,300 units, with only a small share available for rent at any given time. Rental costs remain well below state and national averages. Federal housing data shows a two-bedroom fair market rent at about \$660 per month, including some utilities. Even availability is limited — a reflection of the county's preference for ownership and its lack of large apartment developments. With median household income around \$47,000, most families can afford to own their home, but few new houses are being built, and those that are tend to replace agricultural structures rather than add to the overall supply, according to available data.

A newly developed \$10.5 million, 48-unit housing complex on the east edge of the Marion city limits is already completely full after taking its first tenants in February. Manager Tina Myers says demand exists all of western Kentucky is extremely high. She also oversees Bellville Manor Apartments in Marion and its 32 units are full; rarely does one become available.

"I get applications every day, and probably 30 or 40 percent of them tell me they're homeless," Myers said, "everywhere across western Kentucky."

He demand for housing in Marion isn't just from local residents, Myers said. "I get applications regularly from Providence, Sturtevant and other nearby towns. The average rent at Cole's, which is typically around \$800, is subsidized, ranges between \$575 and \$700 depending on the occupant's income. That price includes utilities. Government-assisted housing at the village is much lower, around \$250 to \$350 in most cases."

The net result from pressure on the housing market in rural Crittenden and Livingston counties is a steady rising housing market

or longtime homeowners, stability prevails.

Around the lakes area, Livingston County's housing story carries a different twist. Its modest inland communities mirror Crittenden's affordability, but near Lake Barkley and Kentucky Lake, the market changes dramatically. Waterfront and lake-view properties, particularly around Grand Rivers, can list anywhere from \$400,000 to well over \$1 million.

Yet those high-end homes represent a small fraction of the county's total housing stock, which keeps overall numbers much lower. Zillow estimates the average home value county-wide at \$149,000, up about 5 percent over the past year. Realtor.com shows the median listing price closer to \$280,000, reflecting the impact of a handful of lake-area listings among a small pool of properties.

Like Crittenden County, Livingston is overwhelmingly owner-occupied, about 81 percent of homes are lived in by their owners. The rental market is small, and roughly half of all renters spend more than 35 percent of their income on housing, a sign of limited supply. Federal housing data sets the two-bedroom fair market rent at \$689 per month, only slightly higher than Crittenden's, but the presence of seasonal lake cabins and second homes skews availability.

The mix of lakefront luxury and modest inland dwellings creates a split market. The waterfront properties attract out-of-county buyers and retirees, while most local residents live in affordable, often older homes scattered through the county's rural communities.

Both counties illustrate a broader rural Kentucky theme — low overall housing costs but limited options for growth. Construction costs, modest incomes and aging housing stock make it difficult for developers to justify large-scale new projects.

In Crittenden County, that means slow churn in ownership and few opportunities for newcomers. In Livingston, it means a lake-driven niche market that lifts values along the shoreline but leaves much of the county unchanged.

For families seeking to settle in either county, affordability remains a strength. But for planners



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NOTICE OF PASSAGE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NUMBER 25-17 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING §37.21 ORDINANCE FINE SCHEDULE

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Marion, Kentucky, at its regular called meeting held on October 20, 2025 , at 5:00 o'clock p.m., gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Marion Code of Ordinances, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at a regular called meeting of the City Council held on September 15, 2025, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

Violation	1 st Offense	2 nd Offense	All Others
Animals	\$25.00 per animal \$50.00 per animal	\$50.00 per animal \$100.00 per animal	\$400.00 per animal \$200.00 per animal
Building and Construction Codes	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$150.00
Garbage	\$25.00 \$50.00	\$50.00 \$100.00	\$400.00 \$200.00
Occupational License	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$100.00
Junked Vehicles plus towing	\$50.00 \$100.00	\$400.00 \$200.00	\$200.00 \$400.00
Weeds nuisances if not otherwise stated plus cost of abatement	\$25.00 \$50.00	\$50.00 \$100.00	\$400.00 \$200.00

(b) If the citation is contested and a hearing before the code board is required, the following maximum penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the code board:

Violations	1 st Offense	2 nd Offense	All Others
Animals	\$400.00 per animal \$200.00 per animal	\$200.00 per animal \$400.00 per animal	\$250.00 per animal \$500.00 per animal
Building and Construction codes	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$1000.00
Garbage	\$75.00 \$150.00	\$450.00 \$300.00	\$250.00 \$500.00
Occupational licenses	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$1000.00
Junked Vehicles	\$75.00 \$150.00	\$425.00 \$250.00	\$225.00 \$450.00
Weeds, Nuisances if not otherwise stated plus cost of abatement	\$50.00 \$100.00	\$75.00 \$150.00	\$200.00 \$400.00

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

PREPARED BY:

/s/ Robert B. Frazer
ROBERT B. FRAZER
LEGAL SERVICES OFFICER
FRAZER LAW OFFICE
ATTORNEYS –AT- LAW
P.O. BOX 361
MARION, KY 42064
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Houses typically feature various areas that are traditionally designed for storage, such as garages, basements and attics. However, with some renovation, these spaces can be transformed into livable areas.

Homeowners who would like to convert attics into livable spaces need to take certain things into consideration before starting an improvement project. While the attic may seem like it has plenty of room and is structurally sound enough to walk in, that's not necessarily so. To be converted into usable living space, an attic must be brought up to the standards of modern building codes, according to the design experts at Board & Vellum. Retrofitting beams and insulation can eat up available space in an attic. Thus, it is best to consult an expert to see if an attic can be converted.

Furthermore, an attic that was not initially designed as a room when the house was built can add extra "load" upstairs if it is converted. That could present certain structural problems. That means a structural engineer also must be consulted to see if adding beams, flooring and drywall will necessitate other changes elsewhere in the home to accommodate the extra load.

In order to have a functional attic room, building codes will dictate that it needs to be accessible by a full-size staircase. Also, it will need to have another exit in case of an emergency so that will likely be an accessible window, according to the home information site The Fill. Homeowners' budgets and renovation plans will need to factor



into these considerations. Homeowners also are advised to check local permits to determine what else may be required to go forward. It is best to follow the rules. Lack of a permit for work can affect the ability to sell a home down the line.

Individuals also should plan for heating and cooling upgrades as the home will need to have ductwork installed in the attic, or at the least, a stand-alone heating and cooling unit. As heat rises, it can get quite warm in an attic, so ventilation and comfort should be considered. The attic will need to be wired for electricity for lighting

and other needs. Air sealing and additional insulation can the attic space more comfortable as well. Consult with a qualified electrician and an HVAC technician and have an energy audit done to discuss needs.

Attic renovations can give homeowners more space in their homes, which can be used as offices, bedrooms or cozy corners. This is no small undertaking and all of the right steps need to be followed to ensure a legal, safe and successful renovation.

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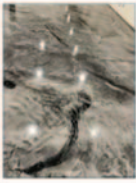
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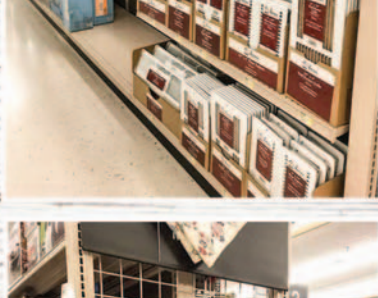
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