



The Crittenden Press

Queen Orr & King Hall | See Full Court Page 3

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

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

AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

TWO DOLLARS

KY 295 bridge could be done by Friday; update on others

The KY 295 bridge over Livingston Creek at the Crittenden-Lyon county line could reopen as soon as Friday if guardrail installation goes as planned this week, according to Carrie Dillard of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. The bridge, closed since March 2024 after inspectors found severe structural deterioration, was recently paved. Crews expect work to wrap up this week, completing the \$1.236 million replacement project under Jim Smith Contracting. The new single-span bridge replaces a five-span steel I-beam structure and features concrete beams with an updated design. The closure forced motorists onto narrow county roads for the past 18 months. About 675 vehicles normally cross the bridge each day.

Meanwhile, work on the Dam 50 Road bridge remains on schedule, with completion expected in early November and there's possible movement on funding for replacement of the bridge on Mexico Road that has been closed since March.

Tallest Presidents

Here are the five tallest U.S. presidents ranked by height:

1. Abraham Lincoln 6-foot-4
2. Lyndon B. Johnson 6-foot-3½
3. Donald Trump 6-foot-3
4. Thomas Jefferson 6-foot-2½
5. George Washington 6-foot-2

Honorable mentions just behind them: Bill Clinton, Chester A. Arthur, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, all about 6-2.



Halloween Ups | Downs

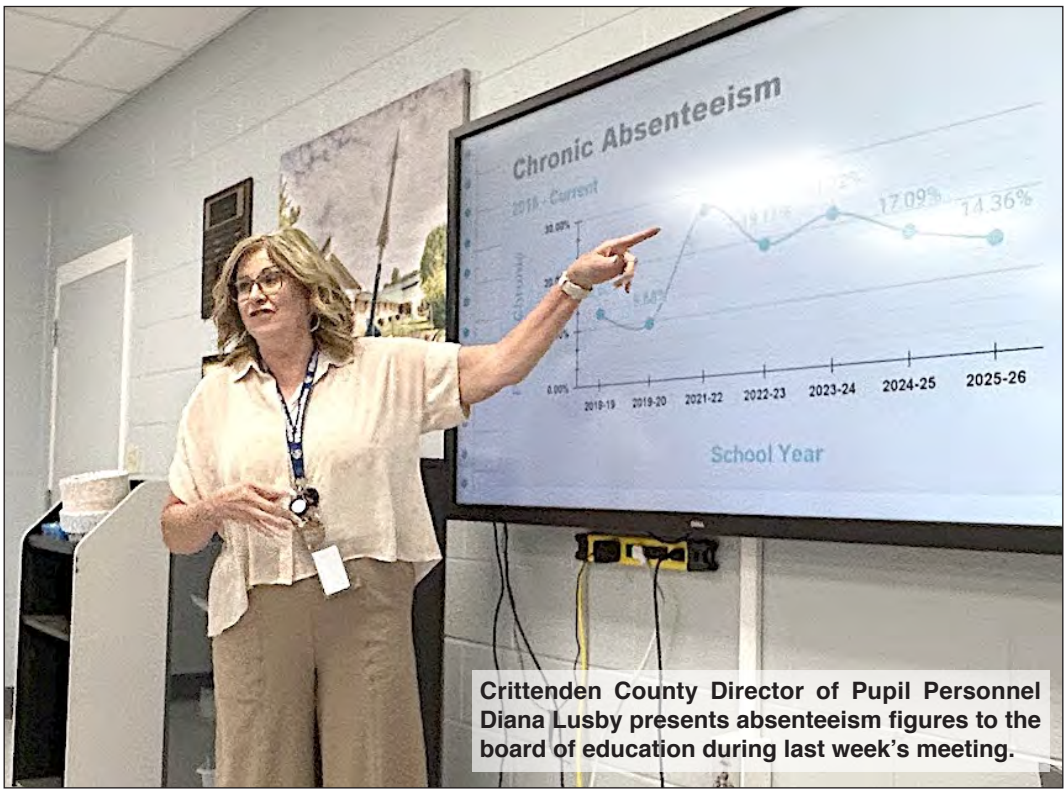
Trick or Treat on Main is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 31 (see details on page 3); however, Tolu has announced that it will not be hosting a haunted house this year.

Youth Camp Rd. closing

Youth Camp Road will be closed to through traffic late this week, Wednesday through Friday, Oct. 8-10, as crews repair several areas of base failure in preparation for paving. While motorists will still be able to access either Irma White Road or Tom Hill Road from one end of Youth Camp Road, normal routes may be altered during the work period. Drivers are urged to use caution in the work zones.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Marion Code Enforcement Board will meet at 5 p.m., Monday, Oct. 13 at city hall.
- Livingston County Board of Education will meet at 5 p.m., Monday, Oct. 13.
- Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce will meet at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 14 at the Rocket Arena conference room.
- Caldwell County Fiscal Court will meet at 9 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 14 at the courthouse.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 16 at the county office complex.



Chronically Absent

District doubling down on issue of too many missed school days

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County school officials say student attendance remains one of the most pressing challenges for the district, even as data show encouraging signs of improvement. Chronic absenteeism, defined as students missing 10 percent or more of the school year, has declined for the second consecutive year, but remains well above pre-pandemic levels.

According to district figures presented during last week's board of education meeting, the chronic absenteeism rate in 2025-26 is 14.36 percent, down from 17.09 percent last year. That drop equals about 32 fewer students in the chronically absent category, based on an enrollment of 1,180. By comparison, the rate was 26.69 percent in 2020-21, the year most affected by the pandemic, and 19.17 percent in 2021-22.

Despite progress, attendance has not yet returned to where it was before COVID-19. In 2019-20, the district's rate was just 9.68 percent, the lowest in more than a decade.

"I'd be tickled to be under 10%, but that's still 10 percent of our students missing way too much school," said Director of Pupil Personnel Diana Lusby. Attendance matters for more than grades and test scores. It

See **ABSENT**/page 4



Chronic Absenteeism
Absenteeism data for Crittenden County School District from 2018 to present.

2018-19	⇒ 12.60%
2019-20	⇒ 9.68%
2020-21	⇒ 26.69%
2021-22	⇒ 19.17%
2022-23	⇒ 19.93%
2023-24	⇒ 21.72%
2024-25	⇒ 17.09%
2025-26	⇒ 14.36%

Elsewhere in 2023-24

Caldwell	23.7%
Hopkins	25.3%
Livingston	25.9%
Lyon	20.0%
McCracken	16.3%
Paducah	28.5%
Trigg	21.0%
Webster	27.9%
State Average	28.5%



HARVEST TIME | National Farmers Day
Harvest season is underway in Crittenden County and across the region. On Sunday, we observe National Farmers Day. Find our special section on pages 8-9 where we celebrate our local farming heritage. Last week James Penn (pictured above) and his crew were harvesting soybeans south of Marion along U.S. 641. Motorists should be alert for slow-moving farm equipment on area highways.

County resets jail budget

STAFF REPORT

Only three months into the new fiscal year, Crittenden County Fiscal Court last Friday introduced a major amendment to the 2025-26 budget, a \$274,402 adjustment that leaders believe will stabilize a number of county operations. Yet its primary objective was clearly a response to the county's growing financial concern at the jail.

Final approval of the budget amendment ordinance will be considered at the fiscal court's next meeting on Thursday, Oct. 16. The proposal reflects minor carryover balances and reimbursements in various departments, yet a sharp reduction in expectations of federal prisoner housing payments, which the county believes has created a deficit in the Jail

Fund. The amendment reduces total jail revenue expectations by \$161,110.74.

According to the budgetary amendment, revenue from federal prisoner housing and travel fell by \$231,700 combined, and additional decreases came from telecom commissions, inmate fees and other small line items. Modest increases in the jail's

See **AMEND**/page 4

My turn John Boy

Every Thursday night when I was a boy, I called my grandmother to remind her that The Waltons was about to come on television. I didn't want her to miss it. She had lived through the Great Depression as a young wife and mother, and while she spoke of those years with a certain fondness, I later came to realize the reality was far harsher than her stories let on. For her, that show was both reminder and comfort, an idealized reflection of a time that had been bitter in practice, yet sweet in memory. She had lived in a place along the Tennessee River known as the Old 23rd District. I wrote extensively about those days in my book *South of the Mouth of Sandy*.

As a child, I didn't fully grasp why it meant so much to her. Only later, when I understood the weight of what she had endured, did I see the deeper truth. She needed those familiar voices from Walton's Mountain to tell her that hardship could coexist with love, dignity and grace.

I always identified with John Boy Walton. He was a writer with his own newspaper, The Chronicle, forever scribbling down thoughts about people, places and the quiet lessons tucked inside everyday life. He was pragmatic and a little philosophical, and he saw in ordinary moments something worth preserving. Perhaps that's where I, too, caught the bug – the notion that words on a page could help a community see itself more clearly and even find some redeeming value in the telling.

The other night, I caught a rerun I hadn't seen in decades, an episode titled The Pony Cart. The story revolved around Grandpa's sister-in-law, who was nearing the end of her life at age 90. When the episode opened, I found myself almost mouthing the lines, though I hadn't seen it since I was probably 10 years old. That's how memory works with the stories that matter. They stay etched somewhere in us, waiting. Pastor Wayne Garvey always used to quip that he had a mind like a steel trap. Once something got in there, he could never get it back out.

What struck me about the Waltons episode wasn't the sadness but the serenity. The underlying message was that her life had been full, her time had come and she met it without fear or foreboding. It was about finding peace in the leaving, just as much as joy in the living.

So simple are the themes, down-home truths of family, faith and resilience that still bend up the corners of my mouth. When I think of John Boy, whose pen carried the weight of his world, I smile. Maybe he's the reason I've spent decades writing for a small-town newspaper, scratching out columns that I hope, in some small way, bring the same kind of meaning my grandmother found in that Thursday night ritual.

Good night, John Boy.

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.



Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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Deaths

Kirk

Charlotte Leidecker Kirk died peacefully on October 4, 2025 in Louisville. Charlotte was born on February 11, 1949 in Florence, Ala. She was a graduate of Reidland High School in Paducah and Murray State University, where she earned a Master's degree in Secondary Education.



Surviving are a son Chad Kirk (Katie); grandchildren Hayden Frazier, Collier and Webb Kirk; 2 brothers Frank and Keith Leidecker; and countless nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

A lifelong teacher and educator, Charlotte spent years in the classroom focusing her time on young students and those with special needs. She loved to travel and spent much of her later years circling the globe. She will be remembered for her generosity, warmth, intelligence, quick wit, and great sense of humor. She was also an incredible listener and loved nothing more than sitting with friends or family and sharing conversation.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Amy Kirk; a sister, Diane Irvan and her parents Boyd and Mildred (Wiley) Leidecker.

The memorial was held Wednesday, Oct. 8 at Ratterman Funeral Home in Louisville.

Greenwell

Ann Callaway Christian Greenwell, 82, of Marion died peacefully on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2025. She was originally from Union County (Caseyville and Sturgis), the only daughter of Margaret Berry Cooper Christian and Robert Carr Christian. While on break from college, she met Billy Sam Greenwell from Morganfield, who would become her husband for the next 55 years.



Ann was an avid learner who began reading the Evansville Courier at age 3 no less. She graduated from Sturgis High School ('61), University of Kentucky ('65) and Murray State University (for Rank I and other teaching certificates). Like her parents and many of her family be-

fore and after her, she was a devoted school teacher for many years before she retired as a victim's advocate with the Commonwealth of Kentucky. She additionally owned an antique store (The Calico Cat) and a ceramics, porcelain and pottery studio (Ann's Kids). She was immensely resourceful and if she determined she was interested, there was very little that she could not do and generally devoted her resources to others. She adored animals, including her horses, dogs, cats, racoons, opossums, peacocks, wild turkeys, and let's be honest, anything that would wander on the farm in which she would feed and harbor joyfully.

Ann loved the people of Crittenden, Union and Webster counties and as if she wasn't related to most of their residents, she certainly knew them and/or their families well. She was known to send personal letters, often hand-written and distributed copious numbers of cards each year. She was keenly interested in people, particularly children and unselfishly was devoted to creating the possible for anyone that dreamed of the impossible. Ann could always see untapped potential and like all good teachers, was committed to nurturing that goal. She was an outspoken and loyal supporter of what she believed was right, even when she was in the minority and few, if any, could prove to be an adequate opponent to her position.

Surviving are her children, Bear Greenwell, Wolf (Heather) Greenwell, Zac (Marcie) Greenwell; five grandchildren, Joshua Walser, Kyle Goff, Skyler Greenwell, Sammy Greenwell and Lanie Greenwell; and one great-grandchild, Ian Goff-Joseph. She was predeceased by her parents and the one love of her life, Bill, with whom she created not only a home but a loving and grateful family.

Services for Bill and Ann will be held on Saturday, Oct. 11, at 11 a.m. at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion with Pastor Adam Bridgeman officiating. Visitation will be on Friday, October 10, from 5 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 11, from 10 to 10:45 a.m.

The family is having a celebration of their lives at Fohs Hall immediately following the service where everyone is welcome to enjoy Marion Pit Bar-B-Q, (fried chicken, and country ham).

The family wishes to personally thank Ann's

wonderful family of caregivers, Carmen Brown, Randy and Lisa Benson, Patsy Nesbitt, and Edna Smith, and all of the wonderful professionals of Crittenden Health Systems-Emergency facility. The family also wishes to express gratitude to the many individuals who have shared and continue to share the impact Bill and Ann had on their lives. The outpouring of affection shown to our family lifts us up and reaffirms how lucky we are to have all of you in our lives.

The family kindly requests that memorial donations be made to a charity of your choice.

Reddick

Linda Diane "Nonnie" Reddick, 83, of Hopkinsville, formerly of Madisonville, passed away Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025, at Jennie Stuart Medical Center in Hopkinsville.



She was born Sept. 26, 1942, in Evansville, Ind., to the late C.J. Hobgood and Elsie Franklin. She is preceded in death by her husband, Ellis "Jake" Reddick; a son, Todd Reddick; a brother, Buddy Hobgood; and 2 sisters, Cheryl Arnold and Sherry Hobgood.

Nonnie was the matriarch of her family — a woman of unwavering faith and the heart of her home. She was a prayer warrior who faithfully interceded for her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and friends by name. She lived her life loving others and pointing them toward Jesus.

She attended Rhema Bible College and Victory Bible Institute in Tulsa, Okla. Nonnie helped pioneer and plant churches throughout her life and was a founding member of Christian Assembly, Christ Community, Gateway Church and Covenant Community Church. Throughout her ministry, she established the Military Wives Support Group, the CCC Intercessor Prayer Ministry, the Equip Small Group, and Mentoring Classes. Her passion for the Word of God and her heart for people left a lasting impact on everyone who knew her.

Earlier in life, Diane was a hairstylist for 23 years and was also a Daystar TV personality, sharing encouragement and joy with others.

She is survived by 2 daughters, Stefanie (Jai-

me) Crowell of Madisonville and their children, Micah (Dr. Sydni) Crowell, Ethan (Kelsey) Crowell, Chase Crowell, Christian Crowell, and Caden (Marlie) Crowell; Amy (Dr. David) Bealle of Hopkinsville, their children, Elizabeth (John) Colby, Katheryn (Will) Thweatt, Benjamin (Lauren) Bealle, Jacob Bealle, and Hadley Hancock; a daughter-in-law, Michelle Reddick of Marion, and her children, Kayla (Ben) McCurry, Ashton (Bradley) Wyatt, Bekah Reddick (Sam) Lawskowski, Jack Reddick, Jonah Reddick, Jeff Reddick, and John Luke Reddick; a sister, Ramona Payne of Owensboro; brothers, Rev. Glen Hobgood and Jerry Hobgood, both of Madisonville, and Rick Hobgood of Owensboro; and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, at Covenant Community Church. Burial will follow in Greenhill Memorial Gardens in Hopkinsville.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, at Covenant Community Church, and again from 10 a.m. until service time Saturday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Props for a Purpose, LLC, a 501(c) (3) organization in Hopkinsville.

Whitston

Bertha Irene Whitson, 90 of Benton, Ky., died October 2, 2025 in Baptist Health Paducah.

Known by her friends as Irene, she was born in Union County and had worked as a truck driver along with several other professions.

Surviving are her son, David Whitson, Benton and daughter, Cricket Hurt, Tampa, Fla.

She was preceded in death by her parents James Richard and Fanny Jane Gobin Ivy.

Whitson had chosen cremation and her wishes have been honored by her family. There are no services scheduled at this time.

Myers Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Boyd

John W. Boyd, 84, of Marion died October 6, 2025.

Boyd was born on March 16, 1941.

He was predeceased by his parents Denzil H. and Willie L. Boyd and brother Denzil H. Jr.

Surviving are his wife

Sally of Marion; son, Christopher Kyle Boyd of Palos Hills, Ill.; stepsons, William (Stephanie) Darrow and James Darrow; sister, Mary (Norman) Stiegemeier, Saint Charles, Mo.; several grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews and beloved dog Tick.

Boyd graduated from Crittenden County High School and went on to attend the University of Kentucky. His work in the machine tool and die industry took him to Illinois, New York and Tennessee. In 1998, he and Sally moved back to Mar-

ion to pursue his passion for farming and revitalized the family farm, where he retired just three years ago. Boyd also loved fishing, gardening and watching football but watching basketball was his passion.

Per his request, a private family graveside service was held.

Myers Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made in John's memory to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.



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Nevin Byler Mums

2175 Mt. Zion Church Rd., Marion
Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-Dark



Byler Mums

Rooster Lane
(house on right just before Family Butcher)
Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-Dark



Seniors Claim Third Straight Powderpuff Title

Crittenden County High School's senior class won its third consecutive powderpuff championship during homecoming festivities Oct. 3. Seated from left are Brianna Walker, Peyton Smith, Ella Whitney, Gracie Orr, Aubrey Grau, Mollie Blazina, Gavin Grimes, Makayla Williams, (second row) Faith O'Brien, Georgia Holean, Elliot Evans, Andrea Federico, Aerie Suggs, Elle McDaniel, Ally Yates, Zoey Hodge, Emma Lynch, (back) coaches Quinn Summers and Brayden Poindexter, Jordyn Potter, Anna Boone, Bristyn Rushing, Chloe Hunt, Cassie Guess, Madison Walker, Hayden Peak, Ella Geary, Lacey Boone and coach Caden Howard.



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Crittennden County High School crowned its football homecoming queen and king last Thursday during the annual homecoming game. Pictured is the entire court (from left) freshmen attendants Caroline Martin and Daryl Sherer, junior attendants Braelynn Merrill and Noah Byford, senior candidates Rhiana Maness and Brayden Poindexter, queen Gracie Orr and king Garyson Hall, crown and flower bearers Case Berry and Dru Courtney, senior attendants Anna Boone and Quinn Summers, sophomores Adri Berry and Jack Porter and 2024 king Cam’Ron Belcher.

Royal Court

Crittenden Press Letters to the Editor

Jailer responds to fiscal court

To the Editor and Citizens of Crittenden County:

I would first and foremost like to thank all of you who have sent messages and reached out to me personally to express your support and defend me in both thought and action during these unprecedented times. I appreciate you all more than words can express.

I would like to state some facts that I feel the need to be shared.

1. Crittenden County Detention Center is one of the best financially run jails in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. And it's been that way under my administration as your Crittenden County Jailer.

2. I employ some of the finest correctional officers and support staff in the state and have been 100% staffed my entire first term.

3. I am willing to work with any agency, elected official or other organization for the benefit of the entire county.

4. The Crittenden County Detention Center supplied over \$607,000 of savings to the county in 2024 alone, saving the City of Marion and the Crittenden County Fiscal Court the cost of labor to do those jobs. We provide much needed support throughout the county and community on projects that serve a public purpose.

5. Crittenden County Detention Center is a leader in the correctional field, representing the county proudly.

6. Crittenden County Detention Center is committed to the successful re-entry of all inmates that we house.

7. Crittenden County Detention Center proudly supports the religious ministries that come to our facility for volunteer work in all denominations and have volunteers in the facility 6 days per week.

8. My staff and I provide safe, secure incarceration for all inmates and recognize the individual as a person who has value and a place in our society. No one is just a number to any of us.

9. Crittenden County Detention Center is a leader in educational programs that help give inmates the tools they need to change their lives, while helping to reduce housing costs for the state in the form of educational credits for completion of programs and also helping to bring money into Crittenden County for the completion of DOC recognized programming.

10. The revenue that I have brought into the county does not include COVID funding which totaled \$438,299.20 that we received from 2021 through July 29, 2022 and was the only reason the jail was running in the black.

11. My first full year of administration July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024, the revenue brought in was, to my knowledge, a record-breaking \$3,668,941.82 and last year \$3,383,081.27. This was done without any COVID funding.

12. The Detention Center building costs \$488,000 annually in principal payments and interest alone. This is included in the operational budget of the jail. That total alone is more than the Fiscal Court has had to move into the Jail Budget.

In my opinion, the voters and taxpayers of Crittenden County need to take a long, hard look at why Crittenden County is in the financial situation that it is in. Drive through our industrial parks and you will see that there is very little industry in our county. Look at all the For Sale signs in the yards all around the county and city. That is your tax base leaving the county. Ask yourself why that is. Judge-Executive Perry Newcom and the fiscal court, as it sets right now, have mismanaged and drained resources without any thought about the future and how they are going to improve the lives of our citizens. I feel that the action they unanimously took to request my resignation was a desperate attempt to deflect the blame and find a scapegoat to use for the upcoming elections. This fiscal court had no interest in working with me until they saw the support I have been given since their malicious actions toward me. The political rhetoric that they have encouraged and the misinformation spread is further proof of the desperation they have to retain power.

With that said, I want to issue a call of action to the citizens of Crittenden County. Don't let dirty politics stand for one more cycle. Get out and file to run for judge-executive, magistrate or any other office to which you feel you would be able to provide effective service. Do it for the benefit of your community. Be willing to put yourself out there to benefit future generations. It is not easy, and it is not glamorous, but our community is worth it. I will continue to work diligently to do my job and support others that are willing to take on this thankless work. It is not for the faint of heart.

I am announcing that I am filing for re-election to the position of Crittenden County Jailer. I bring solid leadership, a unique knowledge of corrections, continued positive relationships with the Kentucky Department of Corrections, the U.S. Marshals offices, and all law enforcement agencies and jails around the state. I have proudly represented Crittenden County in the Kentucky Jailers Association as a twice-elected board member; I possess the grit and determination to effectively run the jail and support my staff so they can continue providing this vital service to the citizens of Crittenden County.

I love Crittenden County and am proud to be born and raised here. I want to see the community progress into the future and be the place that future generations can call home.

Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve this great county. It's time to pursue true change for our future and ensure that we have the right people in the right places.

Sincerely,
Athena Hayes
Crittenden Co. Jailer

Seniors need help with meals

To the Editor:

The senior citizens in Marion, Crittenden County and the other eight counties in the Pen-

nyrile region need your help.

An affordable pilot transportation program for Crittenden and Livingston counties was started a couple of years ago and because of its success, Todd and Lyon counties were added. Then came budget cuts that affected the program, which was so needed because there is no public transportation in these areas.

The latest problem due to another budget shortfall attacks home-delivered meals for senior citizens. They will be delivered for a short time, three days per week and only to clients that are most in need.

Some people cannot cook for themselves and they have no one to help. They depend on these meals to survive. Without them they may be forced

to go to a nursing home.

Home delivered meals should be reinstated to be delivered five days per week to all who need them.

We desperately need the public to step up and contact Gov. Beshear, Sen. Jason Howell and Rep. Jim Gooch in person, by email or call the message line 1-800-372-7181.

Also, contact the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, CHFS Listens at 1-833-372-0004 (menu options-press 9) or by email at chfs.listens@ky.gov.

Regardless of age, we need your voice heard in Frankfort supporting senior citizens home-delivered meals program in Marion and Crittenden County.

Margaret Gilland
Marion, Ky.

ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

LOCATIONS: 121 & 123 Hawk Lane, 111 Sturgis Road, Marion, KY 42064

Thursday, October 16, 2025 • 10:00 AM

ESTATE OF JERRY DALE STONE

PREVIEW DATE: Auction Day, October 16th from 8:00-10:00 am

3 PROPERTIES SELLING IN MARION, KY



Tract 1: 0.53 Acres - 111 Sturgis Road, Marion, KY 42064

- 54' x 65' three-story commercial block building • Storefront + shop space
- Excellent visibility & traffic on Hwy 60 / Sturgis Road



Tract 2: 0.46 Acres - 123 Hawk Lane, Marion, KY 42064

- 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home (14' x 70')
- Detached 2-car garage (30' x 40') with concrete floor



Tract 3: 0.45 Acres - 121 Hawk Lane, Marion, KY 42064

- Corner lot at Old Shady Grove Road & Hawk Lane • Excellent Building Site



Tract 3: 0.45 Acres - 121 Hawk Lane, Marion, KY 42064

- Corner lot at Old Shady Grove Road & Hawk Lane • Excellent Building Site

PROPERTY HIGHLIGHTS:

- All tracts have city water • Ideal for investors, developers, or owner-occupiers
- Mix of residential & commercial potential

AUCTION HELD AT: 111 STURGIS, ROAD, MARION, KY 42064

REAL ESTATE TERMS: A 10% buyer's premium will be added to the final bid price & included in contract price. A 15% deposit is due day of auction, balance due in 30 days. The property is being sold on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis, and no warranty or representation, either express or implied, concerning the property is made by the Seller or Auction Company. Each potential bidder is responsible for conducting his or her own independent inspections investigations, inquires, and due diligence concerning the property. Buyer Will Be Required To Sign A Lead Based Paint Disclosure Waiving The Opportunity To A 10 Day Post Sale Inspection. Make Inspections Prior To Date Of Sale. **SURVEY:** The property will be sold by a new survey. Buyer responsible for the survey cost.



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Scam alert: This one poses as funeral home

Kentucky State Police Post 16 in Henderson is warning the public about a scam in which criminals are posing as funeral home representatives through text messages. Victims report receiving unsolicited texts claiming to be a funeral home representative (using a real name associated with the facility), demanding payment for services immediately.

These messages are fraudulent. Funeral homes do not request or process payments through text messaging. Scammers are using fear and sensitive circumstances to pressure individuals into sending money or disclosing financial information.

Kentucky State Troopers recommend the following to protect yourself:

- Do not respond to unexpected texts requesting payment.
- Contact the funeral home directly using a verified phone number if you receive a suspicious message.
- Never share personal or financial information over text with unknown numbers.
- Report suspicious messages to local law enforcement and the Office of Kentucky Attorney General – Consumer Protection (502) 696-5389 or 888-432-9257.

KSP urges residents to share this information with family, friends and especially older community members who may be more vulnerable to such schemes.

Want to be a leader? Here’s a good start

Crittenden County High School’s Crosswalk program will launch a new leadership program for high school students next week after Fall Break. The group, called “Becoming Leaders,” is designed to strengthen creative thinking, problem-solving, business startups and presentation skills.

The program will meet each



Wednesday until 4:30 p.m. and includes online assignments. Organizers say the program will build week to week and run through the rest of the school year.

Participation will be capped. Students interested should see program coordinator Jeff Hughes for details.



Inward migration marks stink season

They’re back, and they’re not from around here. The brown marmorated stink bug, native to China, Japan and Korea, first slipped into the United States by hitchhiking in packing crates shipped to Pennsylvania in the mid-1990s. From there, the invasive pest spread like wildfire, reaching Kentucky only in the last decade.

As fall settles in, the shield-shaped insects begin looking for a warm place to hunker down, often invading homes, barns and garages in western Kentucky. They don’t bite or sting, but when crushed they emit the foul odor that gave them their name. With few natural predators here and plenty of soybeans, corn and fruit to munch on, their numbers have exploded in the region.

Experts recommend keeping

them out rather than dealing with them inside: caulk cracks, repair screens, seal gaps around pipes and doors, and sweep or vacuum up any strays that make it indoors. Otherwise, you may find yourself hosting these foreign freeloaders until spring sends them back outside.

Sturgis raises tax by 4% to 52.4 cents

City of Sturgis last month set its property tax rates for 2025. The rate will be 52.4 cents per \$100 of assessed value, according to a report in the Sturgis News. That means property tax on a \$100,000 home would be \$524. Based on that rate, the city will be raising taxes 4%, the most allowed by state law in a single year.

Sturgis’ personal property rate was as set at 65.67 cents.

Undressed yelling draws charges, lands woman in jail

Livingston County Sheriff’s Department arrested a woman last Thursday after reports of her causing a disturbance in downtown Salem. According to the sheriff’s office, Lori Kinnes, 57, was seen yelling at vehicles near the intersection of Main and Hayden streets. Deputies said they found her undressed and showing signs of intoxication.

Kinnes allegedly resisted arrest, became combative and is reported to have kicked a deputy.

She faces charges of indecent exposure, public intoxication, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, assault and terroristic threatening. Kinnes was lodged in the McCracken County Jail.

*Between Printed Editions
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From the Press Archives – 10 Years Ago

Pedal power and pumpkin pride were on full display at Marion’s Pumpkin Festival a decade ago. Winners included (top left) Cash Singleton, Bryson Beavers and Lane Curry in the 5-6 age division; (top right) Braydon Odom, Katie Beth James and Cutter Singleton in the 7-8 age group; and (bottom) Caroline James, Kenlea Copeland and Austin Porters in the 3-4 division. This photo was originally published in The Crittenden Press.

10 YEARS AGO

October 8, 2015

■ The Siemens plant in Marion was recognized on National Manufacturing Day by Deputy Secretary Rocky Comito of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet with the Governor’s Safety and Health Award for 1 million man-hours without a lost-time incident. Marion Plant Manager Troy Martin, Director of Environment Christine Higdon and EHS Manager Jessica Denton-McCallon were present to collect the award.

■ The Rocket football team beat Fulton City 43-12 in the homecoming game. Quarterback Nick Castiller finished with 149 passing yards and rushed for 93 yards and three touchdowns. Maeson Myers, Micheal Downing and Dylan Hollis each added a touchdown.

■ Rob Stephens of Marion came to the rescue of a beehive at a home in Mexico. Inside a limb that had fallen from a tree, the bees continued to work, protecting the queen and making honey. Once common in Crittenden, beekeeping had declined, but Stephens renewed attention to the importance of bee pollination and honey production. His act created buzz in the Mexico community.

25 YEARS AGO

October 12, 2000

■ First District U.S. Rep. Ed Whitfield visited Marion to announce approval of an \$80,000 grant for expansion of the Marion-Crittenden County Airport. Receiving the grant were Jim Johnson and Jesse Hodges of the Marion-Crittenden County Airport Board. Whitfield also said Congress was expected to approve legislation to aid rural health care facilities.

■ The Crittenden County Board of Education took a big step toward construction of a new gymnasium at the high school. The two-story building would house the Rockets and Lady Rockets. Architect Keith Sharp said he designed the building with a prominent entrance element next to the parking lot.

■ Meghan Cavins won the middle school division at the Webster County Invitational cross country meet. Alongside Cavins, Brandon Jackson and Chris Loxley placed in the top five for the boys squad. Cavins finished her 1.8-mile run in 15:20, Jackson placed third at 15:02, and Loxley finished fourth at 15:42.

50 YEARS AGO

October 9, 1975

■ Jackie Hocking received a \$5 check from Eddie Boone, 4-H Council president, for her winning entry in the 4-H Poster Contest. LeAnne Malcom earned \$3 for her second-place poster, and Stuart Collins won \$2 for third.

■ Marion City Council met to discuss small town matters, including a curfew for the county. City Attorney Wendell Roberts proposed a curfew only on Halloween night instead of year-round.

■ Donnie Mills was named player of the week following Crittenden’s 36-10 win over Russellville. Head coach Roy Cherry said when the Rockets needed yardage in key situations, Mills delivered.

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

The Crittenden Press

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AMEND

Continued from page 1
inter-county housing contracts and adjusted carryover from the previous year are not enough to prevent deep spending cuts.

To balance the jail’s books, appropriations were slashed across multiple categories, most notably \$86,766 in staff wages, \$50,000 originally earmarked for a new transport van, and smaller amounts from office supplies, training and operating costs. A few lines, such as medical service contracts and employee health insurance contributions, were adjusted

upward slightly.

Jailer Athena Hayes, whom magistrates asked to resign a few weeks ago over the jail’s financial condition, said after the meeting that she had already begun making cuts of her own. She lamented the removal of funding for a van because the one being used is old and needs to be replaced. She is hoping auditors will allow her to purchase the van from another account funded by inmate fees, which is not part of the budget.

Hayes said she will not resign and issued a public letter to the community late last week affirming her position. It is published elsewhere

in this edition.

Because it was a special-called meeting, there was no further discussion during the formal part of the assembly. Afterward, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said the budget amendments were needed to provide a more realistic expectation of revenues for the rest of the fiscal year, the first quarter of which ended last week.

“We can’t spend money you don’t have,” he said, pointing to a need to trim the expense side of the budget as well. “We are watching it monthly.”

At the September fiscal court meeting, leaders noted that the

county had already been forced to supplement the jail from the General Fund by more than \$200,000 during the first quarter of the fiscal year.

Outside of the jail, most other funds saw only routine changes. The General Fund increased by \$45,287 from a prior-year carryover, and the Road Fund gained about \$35,600 from FEMA reimbursements and emergency reserves. Small carryovers were also recorded for Parks and Recreation, 911 operations and the Opioid Settlement account, all of which were placed in reserve.

ABSENT

Continued from page 1
also directly affects the school district’s funding. SEEK, the state’s primary school funding formula, is based largely on average daily attendance (ADA). A decline of 68 students in ADA this year cost the district about \$79,000 in state aid. Superintendent Tonya Driver has set a daily attendance goal of 96 percent, but the district has struggled to consistently reach that mark.

Absenteeism is often a symptom of broader challenges. Transportation issues, health concerns and family instability are likely barriers that lead to missed school days. District leaders emphasize that even excused absences – such as medical appointments or family emergencies – count toward the chronic absenteeism rate. That limits the district’s enforcement options, since Kentucky law provides consequences only for unexcused absences.

In an effort to turn the tide, Crittenden County Schools recently rolled out SchoolStatus Attend, a software tool designed to help districts improve attendance. The program automatically generates notices for

families, tracks patterns that may place students at risk and flags positive improvements for recognition.

The goal is to allow school staff and truant officers to spend less time on paperwork and more time in direct contact with families, Lusby told the school board last week.

“Improving attendance is about more than compliance,” she said. “It’s about opportunity. This new system gives us the clarity and tools to intervene early and connect with families in meaningful ways.”

Administrators believe that many parents don’t realize how quickly absences accumulate. With 170 instructional days in a school year, chronic absenteeism begins at 17 missed days, that’s less than two per month. Even if a child is performing well academically, research shows students who are chronically absent are far less likely to graduate on time and more likely to struggle later in school.

Absences can also disrupt classroom learning. Students who miss class not only fall behind themselves but can slow the pace for their peers when teachers need to reteach material.

Celebrating gains in attendance, according to Crittenden

County High School Principal Josh Cook, is a top priority.

“We want our students to be here,” Cook said. “Not only does good attendance instill habits that future employers desire and expect, but missing a day of high school can mean missing out on opportunities to learn, grow and celebrate with classmates.”

The high school joins both the middle and elementary schools in regularly hosting unannounced culture-building events, such as National Ice Cream Day last month, when students and staff enjoyed their favorite ice cream cones as school administration arrived in classrooms and offices with the sweet surprise.

Completely eliminating chronic absenteeism is unlikely, but school administrators believe continued progress is possible. The goal is to bring the rate closer to pre-pandemic levels.

Improving attendance can also benefit taxpayers as a whole, because it can limit increases in tax rates. SEEK funding declines when ADA falls, meaning fewer dollars for classrooms, transportation and instructional resources. Even a modest increase in ADA could restore tens of thousands of dollars to the district’s bottom line and that eases the burden on local taxpayers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rocket sports schedule

SATURDAY
CCHS cross country at Morganfield

MONDAY
CCHS volleyball at University Heights

TUESDAY
CCHS volleyball at Caldwell County

Friday’s football scores

2A First Region

Mayfield 52, Caldwell County 0
O’boro Catholic 41, Hancock Co. 14

Other Scores of Interest

Tilghman 35, Logan County 27
McCracken Co. 59, Hopkinsville 56
Apollo 14, Graves County 7
Murray 56, Webster County 0
Owensboro 62, Marshall County 7
Franklin-Simpson 56, Calloway 34
Russellville 56, Ballard Memorial 13
Fulton County 42, Caverna 40
Madisonville 56, Muhlenberg Co. 12



MS All Conference

Crittenden County Middle School football players Noah Moss, Kevin Little and Draven Farmer were selected for the All Conference Team and received their awards last week.

OUTDOORS

Hunting Seasons

Here are some of the most common hunting opportunities currently in season or coming up:	
Bullfrog	May 16 - Oct 31
Coyote night, no lights	July 1 - Nov 30
Squirrel	Aug 16 - Nov 7
Dove	Sept 1 - Oct 26
Crow	Sep 1 - Nov 9
Canada goose	Sept 1 - Sept 15
Deer archery	Sept 6 - Jan 19
Turkey archery	Sept 6 - Jan 19
Deer crossbow	Sept 20 - Jan 19
Early wood duck	Sept 20-24
Teal	Sept 20-24
Turkey crossbow	Oct 1 - Oct 19
Raccoon	Oct 1 - Feb 28
Deer Youth	Oct 11-12
Deer muzzleloader	Oct 18-19
Turkey shotgun	Oct 25-31
Woodcock	Oct 25 - Nov 7
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
Bobcat	Nov 15 - Feb 28
Youth waterfowl	Nov 22
Duck	Nov 27 - Nov 30
Canada goose	Nov 27 - Feb 15
Snow Ross goose	Nov 27 - Feb 15
White-fronted goose	Nov 27 - Feb 15
Dove	Nov 27 - Dec 7
Coyote night, lights	Dec 1 - March 31
Turkey shotgun	Dec 6 - Dec 12
Duck	Dec 7 - Jan 31
Deer muzzleloader	Dec 13-21
Dove	Dec 20 - Jan 11
Deer Free Youth	Dec 27-28
Crow	Jan 4 - Feb 28
Youth waterfowl	Feb 14
Coyote daytime	Year Round
Ground hog	Year Round

Longer youth hunt opens

Kentucky’s youth-only firearms deer season opens Saturday, Oct. 11, and continues through Sunday, Oct. 19. The weeklong hunt offers young sportsmen and girls an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and learn hunting traditions under the guidance of an adult. Hunters ages 12–15 must have a youth hunting license and deer permit, while children under 12 do not need either. Adults accompanying youth hunters are required to wear hunter orange for safety but may not hunt with a firearm during the youth-only season. All harvested deer must be telechecked.

Deer take 102 here so far

As of Monday, Critttenden County hunters had bagged 102 deer during the archery and crossbow season, 39 males and 63 females. Eighteen were with a crossbow. Livingston hunters bagged 78 deer, including 19 male whitetails.

Rockets have won 4 of last 5

STAFF REPORT

On a rare Thursday night homecoming game last week, two seniors continued to find their rhythm.

For a couple of weeks early this season they had been ghosts of themselves, both sidelined in weeks one and two, and Crittenden County was struggling to define its identity without the dynamic duo. But now, with October air sharp as a blade, quarterback Quinn Summers and wideout Caden Howard played as if to make up for lost time, and the Rockets rolled 45-8 over Todd Central.

The Rockets have a bye week on Friday as school is on fall break. They will return next week to play at Fort Campbell for another Class 2A District encounter.

In last week’s homecoming affair, Summers’ arm and legs painted the field with big plays, and Howard caught nearly everything thrown his way, scoring five touchdowns, one shy of the school record. Together, they wrote a first-half masterpiece that essentially ended the game before halftime. The mercy-rule running clock was deployed before intermission.

Crittenden (4-3, 2-1 Class 2A District 1) has now won four of its last five, solidifying itself in the playoff picture with two straight district victories. Todd Central fell to 1-6, 0-3.

“Adversity can really show you who you are and how you can handle bad times and bounce back. Coming back out here and feeling 100 percent feels amazing,” Howard said, after setting fire to the Rebel secondary with 204 yards receiving.

Summers opened the scoring by zipping a 26-yard strike to Howard, then breaking loose on fourth down off the left end for a 61-yard touchdown run. He would finish with 241 yards through the air on 12-of-19 passing, plus another 69 on the ground.

Howard did the rest. His 67-, 51-, 43- and 6-yard touchdown receptions all came in the first two quarters, torching Todd Central’s defense with a mix of speed, precision routes and Summers’ uncanny touch. By halftime, Crittenden led by what would be the final score, and never looked back.

After surrendering a 24-yard touchdown pass to Rigney Harrison on Todd’s opening drive, the Rocket defense tightened its grip. Hayden Hughes and Dokota Sosh picked off passes, while Jay Stevenson had a sack and Azariah Rich recovered an onside kick. Todd Central managed only 129 total yards, including 55 through the air on 4-of-15 passing.

Coach Gaige Courtney said his offense was clicking and defense did its job after that early letdown when Todd scored its only TD. The Rockets scored on all six of their possessions in the first half.

Howard, who last week became the school’s all-time leader in career receiving yards, nearly added another record with his five-touchdown haul. Summers, meanwhile, continues to flash dual-threat brilliance over the past two games, giving the Rocket offense yet another weapon, particularly with starting running back



PHOTO BY ALLISON EVANS

The Rockets celebrated teammate Azariah Rich’s recovery of an onside kick last Thursday during the annual homecoming game as CCHS beat Todd Central. Pictured signaling possession their way are Eli Lovell (24), Davis Perryman (14) and Brayden Poindexter (15).

Trae Taylor sidelined with an injury.

With the bye week ahead, Crittenden will prepare for a road test at district foe Fort Campbell before closing district play at home Oct. 24 against rival Caldwell County in the final league game of the season.

Last Thursday’s contest was one of a handful in the state moved off Friday due to a shortage of officials across Kentucky.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Todd Central	8	0	0	0
Crittenden Co.	23	22	0	0

SCORING PLAYS

C-Caden Howard 26 pass from Quinn Summers (Brayden Poindexter pass from Summers) 11:03, 1st

T-Rigney Harrison 24 pass from Eli Morgan (Morgan run) 6:06, 1st

C-Summers 61 run (Mitchell Brown kick) 5:05, 1st

C-Howard 67 pass from Summers (Eli Lovell run) 2:56, 1st

C-Howard 51 pass from Summers (Noah Byford pass from Summers) 10:12, 2nd

C-Howard 43 pass from Summers (Brown kick) 8:45, 2nd

C-Howard 6 pass from Summers (Brown kick) 4:07 2nd

TEAM TOTALS

First Downs: CCHS 8, TCC 6

Penalties: CCHS 5-35, TCC 9-55

Rushing: CCHS 13-104, TCC 27-74

Passing: CCHS 15-21-0, 264; TCC 4-15-2, 55

Total Yards: CCHS 368, TCC 129

Fumbles/Lost: CCHS 0-0, TCC 0-0

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing

CCHS: Summers 2-69, Logan Nolan 6-20, Kaden Harrington 1-2, Azariah Rich 1-8, Conner Poindexter 3-5. TCC: Lister 8-27, Miller 4-5, Morgan 4-13, Martin 5-14, Rigney 6-15.

Passing

CCHS: Summers 12-19-0, 241, C.Poindexter 3-3-0, 23. TCC: Morgan 4-15-2, 55.

Receiving

CCHS: Howard 8-204, Noah Byford 3-40, Eli Lovell 1-(-3), Hayden Hughes 1-18, Chris Guess 1-(-6), Azariah Rich 1-11.

Defense

Brandsasse 3 solos, assist; Pierson solo, assist; B.Poindexter 7 solos, 2 assists; D.Sosh assists, interception; Stevenson solo, sack; Byford 2 solos, assist; Musser 2 solos; Nolan 4 solos, 2 assists; Perryman 2 solos; Blazina solo, assist, TFL; Lovell solo; Nash 4 solos, 2 assists, 2 TFLs; C.Poindexter 2 assists; Rich 6 solos, 2 assists, TFL, fumble recovery; Tramel assist; Harrington 2 solos, assist; Hughes 2 assists, interception; Sherer assist; M.Counts solo.

Records

Crittenden 4-3 (2-1), Todd Central 1-6 (0-3)

CRITTENDEN COUNTY FALL SPORTS ROUNDUP



Crittenden County senior Hayden Peak (25) and junior Ruby Peek (6) converge on the ball during a regular season matchup at Marion-Crittenden County Park.



CCHS cross country runner Landon Starkey

LADY ROCKETS SOCCER

Crittenden advances to 2nd Region Tournament

In a tournament setting, Crittenden County has been perfect against Lyon County this season. After beating the Lyons in the All A Classic opening round earlier this year, then losing to the Lyon girls twice in the regular season, CCHS outscored them 3–2 in a rain-soaked encounter on Monday to advance to the Fifth District championship match Tuesday against Trigg County.

Hosting the district tournament, Crittenden County got goals from Kylie Bloodworth, Adri Berry and Ella Geary on assists by Berry, Geary and Haley Moore to win the tightly contested matchup in Marion. Goalkeeper Macibelle Hardesty recorded a dozen saves. CCHS improved to 7–9–1 on the season, while Lyon closed out at 4–13–2.

“It was a very hard–fought battle. We had to bring out all the stops and really wanted some revenge after losing to Lyon County twice in the regular season. It was really important for us to get that win,” coach Jessica DeBurgo said. The victory ensures CCHS a spot in the regional tournament at University Heights beginning Saturday, Oct. 11. This will be the Lady Rockets’ first trip to the regional tournament since 2022. Their regional opponent has not been decided yet.

Results from Tuesday’s title match against Trigg County at Marion were not available at press time.

•CCHS lost 2–0 on the road last week to close out the regular season at Paducah Tilghman on Tuesday. The Lady Rockets finished 6–9–1 for the regular season.

CCHS CROSS COUNTRY

Crittenden County cross country athletes turned in solid performances last weekend at the Owensboro Invitational, where the Rockets and Lady Rockets competed against a large field of western Kentucky and regional programs. In the boys’ 5,000–meter run, CJ Nelson led Crittenden with a 58th–place finish in 19:31.98, followed closely by Noah Martinez, who placed 67th in 19:49.03. Also competing were Aiden Musser (110th, 23:09.53), Landon Starkey (116th, 24:04.87) and Miles Yates (124th, 25:59.32).

For the girls’ team, Addie Nelson finished 94th in 25:23.03, followed by Ella Whitney (114th, 27:26.02), Braelyn Fulkerson (127th, 30:17.28) and London McCord (128th, 30:20.84).

•Crittenden County’s cross country teams turned in solid performances last Thursday at the Marshall County 2K Dash, with the boys placing fourth overall and the girls finishing fifth in team standings.

For the Rockets, C.J. Nelson led the way in 6th place (12:12.67), followed by River Rogers 9th (12:36.32), Noah Martinez 13th (12:48.83), Gaige Markham 31st (13:49.31), and Landon Starkey 46th (14:41.52). Miles Yates rounded out the team in 59th (16:06.78).

On the girls’ side, Addie Nelson finished 23rd (15:50.10) to pace the Lady Rockets. She was followed by Ella Whitney 39th (17:24.47), Braelyn Fulkerson 53rd (19:37.63), London McCord 56th (20:19.25), and Hannah Whitney 61st (21:23.31).

Farming roots run deep: Glimpses of agriculture in the 1890s

Farming has always been a way of life for many Crittenden Countains. Once there were many small farms all over the county. Farmers were able to provide a living for their families and even make some income from their land. Farming was an important topic that was always being discussed with hopes of improving the land, and the crops that were produced.

Early as the year 1897 there was a series of articles in The Crittenden Press telling about some of the farmers in the different areas of the county and some of the crops there were raising.

It seems Crittenden County had a large agriculture business at this time and good, hard-working farmers and families helped produce the crops. The cash crop mentioned often was that of raising tobacco. The old articles shared a nice variety of farms and the farmers located all over the county and some of their crops.

May 27, 1897
Si Franklin of Levias was in town yesterday with a fine young saddle horse for sale.

William H. Ordway, one of the most extensive tobacco raisers in the county, has reduced his crop this year.

Mr. G. H. Shreever says in the View neighborhood there is a 100-acre wheat field that does not look like it would be worth cutting.

John Shaffer has been selling some mighty fine strawberries. He raises them as large as peaches and has a half dozen different varieties.

Mr. George Hughes of Weston advertises the Rose Eran, an Irish potato new in this section. He has been raising potatoes all his life and pronounces this the best variety he has found.

Mr. Andrew J. Bennett of Tolu was in town Tuesday. He is one of the extensive farmers of the Tolu section, the greatest corn-growing neighborhood in the First Congressional district. Mr. Bennett has 300 acres of corn planted.

June 3, 1897
J. H. McDowell of Shady Grove says there will not be more than half the acreage of tobacco in his section this year.

Mr. J. C. Adams has cut down his tobacco acreage this year. His crop will be 25 percent less than last year.

Mr. J. F. Conger, one of the thrifty farmers of



Back in the day before modern machinery, farmers hand picked their corn, placed it in their wagon and then took it to store in the corn crib in their log barns. Long hard day's work.

Pleasant Hill neighborhood, had nine acres of tobacco set the middle of last week. He tells us he has wheat that will yield 25 bushels per acre.

Joe Samuels of Repton, who has a fine crop of corn this summer, was delivering his corn to parties in town yesterday.



Brenda Underdown
County Historian

Forgotten Passages

George D. Kemp of Shady Grove brought his old reaper down to town Wednesday and exchanged for a new one.

Horace Williamson of the Chapel Hill community is the only man who reports that he will have a larger acreage of tobacco this year than last.

Mr. Eli L. Nunn of Bells Mines was in town Tuesday. When called on for the news,

he said with enthusiasm, "A fine rain yesterday, we are up with our work and crop prospects are encouraging. If there is no hitch anywhere, I will have plenty of hog and hominy in my section in due season."

Mr. Owen Boaz, who owns a pretty farm on the Dycusburg Marion Road, was in town Saturday. He is in good spirits over the prospects of a good crop. Mr. Boaz is one farmer who believes in the virtue of commercial fertilizers. He thinks they ultimately improve the land.

Mr. David Gilliland, one of the tireless farmers of the Hurricane country, was in town Tuesday. Dave is small in stature but it is said that when it comes to moving things on a farm he can do more than two large men. He has charge of Foster Threlkeld's big farm this year and is keeping up with his 250 acres of growing corn.

Mr. William H. Bigham reports that the tobacco farmers of Chapel Hill



A farmer's best friend during planting season would be his trusty and hard-working mule.

neighborhood are done setting out tobacco. He reports the following crops: Wm. Bigham 6 acres, Carl Minner 5 acres, Spillman Hill 4 acres, Burl Walker 8 acres, Eura Bigham 5 acres, Charles Clement 8 acres, Albert Walker 4 acres, J. C. Adams 4 acres.

A number of these watered the plants as they were set. These men are not bent on big crops, but they are determined to measure up to the best in quality.

Chapel Hill always has good tobacco, and the raisers have learned that the better the tobacco the better the price, and they are now going for the top figures.

The Chapel Hill folks say they are going to take the "cake" from the Woodall tobacco this year, or know

the reason why. (Andy Woodall, who lived in the Piney Creek neighborhood, had the reputation of being one of the finest tobacco growers around.)

June 17, 1897
Mr. A. Weldon of Tolu was in town Tuesday. Albert has recently retired from the mill business and invested more extensively in farms. He has a fine farm near Tolu.

Mr. E. L. Horning hauled two loads of tobacco to town Saturday.

J. N. Bracey figures on threshing out 1,500 bushels of wheat this season. Wheat harvesting will begin this week.

Mr. John Asbridge brought a lot of fine honey to town Saturday and soon disposed on it. He took 100 pounds. from

four stands of bees. He has his hives so arranged that the honey is deposited in our pound cases and these are sold without breaking the comb.

Col. A. D. McFee, one of the best farmers of the Fords Ferry section, is selling his last year's crop of corn this week. He sold at 30 cents per bushel and will deliver several hundred bushels.

A few years later in the early 1900s a Farmer's Union was organized. This new organization was formed by the farmers and businessmen of Marion, as they knew how important farming was for the benefit of the county.

The organization was to help the farmers have a more fair and profitable

income for their sweat of hard and honest labor. It would assist farmers in buying and selling and the learning of new scientific methods of farming.

To celebrate the forming of the Farmer's Union, a large celebration was held in the early fall. Early that Saturday morning people commenced coming into Marion with well-filled baskets from all parts of the county and by noon more than 2,000 people had congregated at the local park. The premiums offered by the merchants and citizens of Marion proved an inducement for the farmers and their wives to bring in their products and by noon the park resembled a county fair.

Every citizen and business of Marion was delighted with the day and called it the most successful day Marion had experience in years – another much remembered day for the people of Crittenden County many years ago.

One farmer friend shared with The Crittenden Press, in musing over the dark side of the farming picture which hangs continually before every ambitious farmer:

There's a chinch bug on the wheat,
A cut worm on the corn,
There's interest on my note,
A mortgage on my farm.
(Brenda Underdown is chair of Crittenden County Historical Society and a member of Crittenden County Genealogical Society. Much more local history can be found at OurForgottenPassages.blogspot.com).

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NEW! 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.

NEW! 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.

NEW! 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.

NEW! 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.

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 – 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 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
Livingston County, KY – 105 Acres - \$357,000
Livingston County, KY – 159 Acres - \$520,725
Livingston County, KY – 161 Acres - \$547,400
Livingston County, KY – 353 Acres - \$1,129,600
Livingston County, KY – 718 Acres - \$2,243,750
Livingston County, KY – 989 Acres - \$3,016,450
These tracts are part of a trophy-managed hunting community designed for like-minded hunters dedicated to growing and hunting mature deer.

PENDING! Crittenden Co. KY 0.50 Acre - \$144,900

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

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Community Calendar

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

Saturday, Oct. 11
• Benefit for Ashton Samuels will be from 5-7 p.m. at the Crittenden County Lions Club building. There will be a silent dessert auction. Monetary donations will be accepted at the door. Contact Kim Orr at (270) 704-3930 for more information or to make a donation.

Wednesday, Oct. 15
• Extension District Board meeting will be held at noon at the Crittenden County Extension Office.

Sunday, Oct. 19
• Piney Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church will start Revival at 7 p.m. Church is located at Hwy. 506, 6 miles from Marion.

Join us in celebrating

Betty Holeman,

who will be turning 90 years old on Oct 13.

Love, her family

PUBLIC NOTICE

Attention: Kerosene, Propane, Fuel Oil, Coal and Wood Vendors

Beginning November 3, 2025 through December 12, 2025, Pennyrile Allied Community Services, Inc. (PACS) will be administering the Subsidy Component of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). From January 6, 2026 through March 27, 2026, or until all monies have been expended, PACS will be administering the Crisis Component of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

If you or your company is interested in becoming an approved vendor for the LIHEAP Components, you may obtain a Vendor's Application Packet from Pennyrile Allied Community Services, Inc., P.O. Box 549, 1100 South Liberty Street, Hopkinsville, Kentucky 42240. You may call (270) 886-6341 to request a packet to be mailed to you.

The completed application and signed Vendors Agreement for both Subsidy and Crisis Programs must be returned to PACS Central Office no later than October 16, 2025.

A Vendors Meeting will be held at the following locations on specified dates and time:

Oct. 15, 2025 10 a.m. Pennyrile Allied Community Services, Inc. 1100 South Liberty Street Hopkinsville, KY 42240	Oct. 16, 2025 10 a.m. Lyon County Senior Center 631 W. Dale Avenue Eddyville, KY 42038
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LIHEAP is federally funded through the Department for Community Based Services, Cabinet for Families and Children.



National FARMER'S DAY

Sunday, October 12, 2025



At left Leah Winn was at the controls of the combine last weekend while she and husband Davey were harvested corn near Frances in southern Crittenden County. Crittenden County farmers harvested about 18,700 acres of corn last year with an average of 187 bushels per acre. Local farmers say they are seeing figures over 200 bushel per acre this harvest season for corn planted early in the spring, but the yield is proving much lower for later corn.



United States Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Statistics Service Corn Harvest Estimates from 2024				
County	Planted	Harvested	Yield (Bu/Ac)	Production (Bushels)
Ballard	25,900	25,000	204.5	5,112,000
Union	73,200	72,000	199.7	14,378,000
Christian	77,600	73,300	197.9	14,509,000
Warren	34,900	33,900	196.7	6,648,000
Caldwell	22,900	20,200	196.7	5,224,000
Simpson	42,700	41,700	191.6	7,990,000
Meade	16,900	16,400	190.7	3,127,000
Hickman	38,700	37,900	190.5	7,220,000
Carlisle	23,300	22,800	190.2	4,337,000
Trigg	21,700	21,000	189.9	3,988,000
Logan	67,500	62,800	189.6	11,907,000
Lyon	9,200	8,900	189.6	1,557,000
Adair	9,800	7,490	188.8	1,414,000
Metcalfe	7,500	6,500	188.5	1,225,000
Barren	31,200	24,400	187.9	4,585,000
Crittenden	19,200	18,700	187.3	3,503,000
Todd	50,200	49,000	186.1	9,119,000
Graves	65,000	63,900	184.3	11,703,000
Butler	17,300	16,100	184.2	2,966,000
Russell	6,300	4,410	183.9	756,000
McCracken	40,700	39,300	183.8	7,223,000
Henderson	65,500	63,900	181.1	11,572,000
Daviess	57,600	53,100	180.4	9,579,000
Webster	39,400	38,300	177.1	6,783,000
Hart	9,900	8,760	172.8	1,514,000
Breckinridge	19,700	19,000	171	3,249,000
Edmonson	4,700	4,090	165.8	678,000
Grayson	10,400	9,900	164.9	1,499,000
Rockcastle	2,300	2,070	164.7	341,000
Calloway	33,600	32,900	158.8	5,224,000
Ohio	27,600	26,300	158.6	4,177,000
Laurel	600	470	157.9	74,200
Muhlenberg	15,000	14,500	157.5	2,284,000
Hardin	30,100	29,300	156.7	4,591,000
Gallatin	800	780	152.8	119,000
Green	10,400	9,800	152.6	1,495,000
Livingston	9,800	7,190	149.8	1,077,000
Fleming	3,000	2,680	140.7	377,000
Allen	8,900	8,500	134.6	1,144,000
Woodford	2,500	2,240	128.6	288,000
Boyle	1,000	620	126.8	78,000
Boone	1,700	1,540	123.4	190,000
Franklin	2,100	1,550	113	175,000
Jefferson	1,100	1,040	107.2	107,000
TOTAL	1,059,400	1,004,230	170.436363	185,106,200

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Last month Crittenden County Elementary School held an event called Down on the Farm Day. To the left CCHS student Gracie Orr led a program teaching youngsters like Bailey Bebout about farm cows; in the middle photo is high school student Autumn White helps elementary school student Asher Hale at one of the hands-on events during Down the Farm Day; at right is Ryder Blackburn having fun checking out a John Deere Tractor.



High school student Logan Shafer holds a young goat so Kian Pryor and Reid Bingham make a new friend. Jaxton Duncan was also assisting in the livestock area of the event at Crittenden Elementary School last month during Down on the Farm Day.

FSA offers joint financing option on direct farm ownership loans

The USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Direct Farm Ownership loans can help farmers and ranchers become owner-operators of family farms, improve and expand current operations, increase agricultural productivity, and assist with land tenure to save farmland for future generations.

There are three types of Direct Farm Ownership Loans: regular, down payment and joint financing. FSA also offers a Direct Farm Ownership Microloan option for smaller financial needs up to \$50,000.

Joint financing allows FSA to provide more farmers and ranchers with access to capital. FSA lends up to 50 percent of the total amount financed. A commercial lender, a state program or the seller of the property being purchased, provides the balance of loan funds, with or without an FSA guarantee. The maximum loan amount for a joint financing loan is \$600,000, and the repayment period for the loan is up to 40 years.

The operation must be an eligible farm enterprise. Farm Ownership loan funds cannot be used to finance non-farm enterprises and all applicants must be able to meet general eligibility requirements. Loan applicants are also required to have participated in the business operations of a farm or ranch for at least three years out of the 10 years prior to the date the application is submitted. The applicant must show documentation that their participation in the business operation of the farm or ranch was not solely as a laborer.

For more information about farm loans, contact your Hopkinsville Farm Loan team at 270-885-5066 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

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Homemakers celebrating all next week

From Oct. 12-18, the Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association (KEHA) will celebrate KEHA Week across the commonwealth. Established in 1932, the state organization's 11,000-plus members are dedicated to learning, leading and serving. Educational programs cover a range of topics, including heritage skills, nurturing families, food safety, nutrition, waste reduction, leadership, scam avoidance, civic engagement and more.

This marks the 76th year that Homemakers have been active in Crittenden County. The county currently has 45 members and three traditional clubs. After Hours meets at 5 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month; the Challengers meet at noon on the second Wednesday; and the New Era Homemakers, formed last year, meet at 5:30 p.m. on the second Thursday. All clubs are accepting new members, and anyone interested is welcome to attend a meeting.

In addition to the traditional clubs, Hooks & Needles meets twice a month



Rebecca WOODALL
EXTENSION AGENT
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

at noon on the second and fourth Tuesday at the Crittenden County Public Library. Annual dues for membership are \$10.

Volunteer service is a strong emphasis in KEHA. Statewide, members reported more than 786,000 volunteer hours supporting Extension and community projects, with a value exceeding \$23 million. Since 1977, KEHA has actively supported the University of Kentucky Ovarian Cancer Research Fund, contributing more than \$1.6 million. To kick off this year's fundraiser, Homemakers will host a quarter auction Nov. 15.

Locally, Homemakers contribute to numerous efforts, including donations to food banks and the Family Resource Center, sponsoring community arts events and participating in beautification projects at the park. These efforts have included purchasing storyboards for the walking trail and painting two murals honoring local veterans. In 2025, Homemakers in Crittenden County volunteered more than 1,500 hours, valued at over \$46,179.

KEHA is a volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for families and communities through leadership development, volunteer service and education. The organization operates in partnership with the University of Kentucky Cooperative



Next week is Kentucky Extension Homemakers Week and Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom with a stroke of the pen Monday has official proclaimed it a local celebration. Pictured behind Newcom are (from left) Rebecca Woodall, Sue Ledford, Janice Clack , Tessa Potter, Brandi Potter and Darl Henley.

Extension Service. County Extension agents for Family and Consumer Sciences work closely with KEHA members and clubs to provide educational programming and coordinate community activities.

To celebrate KEHA Week, Homemakers will host various events throughout the community and will kick off the

week with a Twilight Walk in the Park at 6 p.m. Oct. 13.

For more information about the Crittenden County Extension Homemakers, contact the Crittenden County Extension office at 270-965-5236 or email rebecca.woodall@kysu.edu. Extension agents are located in counties all across Kentucky.

Crittenden schools propose spending plan

Debt payment on construction almost \$800K

STAFF REPORT

Local school leaders say the numbers are coming into clearer focus now that tax rates are set, and Crittenden County School District's 2025-26 working budget shows steady day-to-day operations, debt payments tied to facilities including the new middle school and a solid contingency to cover unforeseen costs.

During last week's regular board of education meeting, the \$21.96 million budget was presented by Finance Officer Diane Winters. The General Fund, which runs schools, is \$16.90 million, or 77 percent of the spending plan. Special revenue, mostly grants, accounts for 9 percent; food service is 8 percent; building and capital

funds together are 4 percent; and school activity funds are 2 percent.

Within the General Fund, revenue is balanced to expenses at nearly \$16.90 million. State SEEK is the single largest funding source at 39 percent, or \$6.65 million. Local taxes supply 21 percent, \$3.48 million. "On-behalf" state payments for employee benefits are 22 percent, or \$3.7 million, and the beginning balance makes up the remaining 18 percent.

Instruction remains the district's priority, representing 44 percent of General Fund spending, or nearly \$7.5 million. Physical plant operations and maintenance are 16 percent, almost \$2.7 million; transportation is 7 percent; school and district administration together make up 12 percent; and technology and business services account for 3 percent.

The district is carrying

an approximately 7 percent contingency, about \$1.09 million, which School Board Chairman Chris Cook said is higher than usual but very important. Unforeseen expenses always arise, Cook noted.

Debt service is listed separately in Fund 400 and totals \$1.11 million, including almost \$800,000 in bond obligations, largely reflecting payments for the new

middle school project and recent elementary school renovation.

Local impact can be seen in per-student spending. Based on 1,180 students enrolled, the total budget works out to about \$18,613 per student. The General Fund alone is about \$14,320 per student. In classrooms, instruction totals roughly \$6,348 per student. Keeping buildings open and safe is

about \$2,283 per student, transportation \$1,066, and the rainy-day contingency about \$927.

Even with overall enrollment slightly up since the start of the year, from 1,175 to 1,180, the challenge for school leaders remains attendance (see absenteeism article on front page). SEEK dollars are down \$79,191 compared to last year because the district's

aggregate daily attendance slid from 1,217 to 1,149. Still, a roughly 4 percent increase in local tax revenue will help offset the drop in state aid.

SEEK funds are state dollars sent to the district based on the number of students attending class each day.

Looking for a home

Meet Lil Miss Peggy Sue. She sure has had a rough go at it so far. She was found with a terrible injury and infection that was not able to be treated. That resulted in the amputation of her rear leg. But trust me, that doesn't dampen this girl's spirits at all!! She is full of life and energy. She is playful, loves to play with anything she can get her paws on and loves attention. She needs a playful, active family, possibly with other cats to run and play with. She is a Mary Hall Ruddiman kitten that is being housed at the Animal Practice of Marion. You can visit her at the clinic and pick up an application. Call (270) 965-1600 to set up a time to meet Peggy Sue.



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Area 1

N. of West Bellville
W. of North Main- Fords Ferry Rd.
Nov. 3, 4, 13, 14

Area 2

N. of E. Bellville
E. of N. Main-Fords Ferry Rd.
Nov. 5, 6, 17, 18

Area 3

S. of W. Bellville • W. of S. Main
Nov. 7, 10, 19, 20

Area 4

S. of E. Bellville • E. of S. Main
Nov. 11, 12, 21

Random days will be on:
Nov. 24, 25 & 26

NOVEMBER	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	3	4	5	6	7
	* Area 1 *		* Area 2 *		Area 3
	10	11	12	13	14
	Area 3	* Area 4 *		* Area 1 *	
	17	18	19	20	21
	* Area 2 *		* Area 3 *		Area 4
	24	25	26	27	28
	* Random *			End Leaf Pickup	