

# The Crittenden Press



**VOLLEYBALL** | Regional supremacy contested, page 9

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## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

### JULY PRELIMINARY DATA

US Comparable Rate - 4.5%

	July 24	June 24	July 23
Lyon	4.8%	4.9%	4.4%
Caldwell	4.9%	4.8%	4.1%
Crittenden	5.3%	5.2%	4.6%
Trigg	5.4%	5.3%	4.8%
Webster	5.7%	5.3%	4.6%
Livingston	6.0%	5.8%	4.9%
Hopkins	6.3%	6.1%	4.6%
KY Statewide	5.3%	5.0%	4.6%

## Joblessness up in KY

Unemployment rate rose in Crittenden and 118 other Kentucky counties between July 2023 and July 2024. Lee County was the only place the jobless rate fell last month, according to the Kentucky Center for Statistics, an agency within the Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet. Cumberland County recorded the lowest jobless rate in the commonwealth at 3.8%. Magoffin County had the state's highest unemployment rate at 11.3%.

## Long Branch closures

About 1.3 miles of Long Branch Road in northern Crittenden County was closed to through traffic Tuesday, and will remain closed through Friday. It will be closed again next week from Tuesday, Sept. 3 through Friday, Sept. 6 from 7:30 a.m., until 3 p.m. The work zone starts at the intersection of US 60 intersection and runs 1.3 miles west. The work includes replacement of existing cross tiles.

## Main Lake Rd. bridge work will limit traffic

Starting Monday, Sept. 3, contractors will begin work to repair Main Lake Road bridge just off KY 855 South. Periodic road closures will be required during the two-week planned repair period. Work is expected to be done by Sept. 17, weather permitting. Motorists are encouraged to use caution in and around this work zone for the safety of all involved, said Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom.

## Deadline for write-in

Friday, Oct. 25 is deadline to file as a write-in candidate for the Nov. 5 general election. Write-in candidates may seek local positions on city council or board of education. Currently, only five candidates filed to be on the ballot for six Marion City Council seats. Three incumbent school board members have filed for re-election to their respective districts. See election calendar page 10.

## FFA car show planned Sept. 7 at fairgrounds

Trophies, goodie bags and giveaways will be provided during a Crittenden County FFA Car Show Saturday, Sept. 7 at the fairgrounds. Entry is \$10 per vehicle for the event, which will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Awards will be presented at 1:30 p.m. Trophies will be given for Best of Show, Kids' Choice, Best Paint and Best Motorcycle in categories for models 1949 and below; 1950s and 1960s; 1970s, 1980s and 1990s; and 2000 and newer.



Architectural rendering of proposed Livingston Hospital expansion in Salem

## Salem Excited About Potential for Growth

# Details unveiled for Livingston Hospital

### Numbers

- Current estimated cost \$78 million.
- 60,000 square feet of new construction.
- When complete, about 25-30 new jobs.
- USDA loan will cover about \$70 million of the project.
- If all goes well, hospital leaders believe construction could begin in the third quarter of 2025.
- Estimates are that construction will take about 18 months.

### STAFF REPORT

With a proposed multi-million-dollar investment on the horizon at Livingston Hospital, Salem is poised for growth beyond the healthcare field.

Around 75 people attended a public hearing last Wednesday for hospital officials and their consultants and contractors to present plans for securing a federal loan to renovate its existing facility and expand.

Salem Mayor Gary Damron and others in the town say the city is excited about the project, which will bring new jobs and perhaps spawn additional growth in the community.

Dr. David Meinschein, superintendent of Livingston County schools, moderated the forum. As part of the USDA loan application process, a public hearing is required. As part of the the process, planners are to provide information and gauge public response to the project.

"This project is big for multiple reasons," Meinschein said in an opening statement.

Pretty much everyone in the tiny town of 722 agrees that the hospital's plans will change the landscape of Salem.

Founded in the early 1800s, Salem was at one time county seat of Livingston. Its population peaked around 1980 with just over 800 people, but it has been slowly declining ever since. The hamlet



About 75 people attended a public hearing last week in Salem where details of the hospital's proposed expansion were presented.

on the eastern edge of Livingston County bisected by US Highway 60 was even smaller in the 1950s when the local Lions Club championed a plan to build the first hospital there.

"Those people had a vision back then and this group is going to change things again," Meinschein added. As an educator, he also pointed out that quality healthcare is key to having healthy students and said the hospital is important for work-based education. Several area high schoolers are finding career readiness opportunities at the facility.

See SALEM/page 3

# City plans to keep pressure on dilapidated property

Marion's mission to compel property owners to either clean up, fix up or tear down dilapidated homes continues in earnest, Mayor D'Anna Browning said last week during the city council's monthly meeting.

Nine properties around town have been deemed the target of code enforcement issues, and the mayor says more blighted or badly decaying structures will be added to the list.

Formal letters declaring the city's intention to enforce its building codes gives property owners 90 days to begin making improvements or tear

## MARION CITY COUNCIL

down the structures. Otherwise, the city will take further action, which could include misdemeanor charges, fines and/or eventual condemnation proceedings that could force sale of the property.

Although precise addresses of the properties have not been publicly discussed in meetings, they are part of the public record. They are located on East and West Depot streets, Old Shady Grove Road, Elm Street, and East Bellville Street. There are multiple on some streets.

The city's letter mailed to owners reads, "Pursuant to City of Marion Ordinance §150.13(D), this is notice that your building is a dangerous building as defined by Ordinance §150.10. This determination was made after an inspection performed by Duke Gaston, of Gaston Engineering PSC- KY Licensed Engineer No. 14882 pursuant to the request of the City Administrator."

The letter says owners "shall repair or demolish the building and any occupant

must immediately vacate the property as well."

Each individual letter included deficiencies found on specific properties.

"In the event the building is demolished, then all debris must be removed," the letter states.

It also says that if no action is taken, the property will be subject to penalties outlined in city ordinances, which "could include a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$200 for each offense and a further sum of \$10 for each and every day such failure to

See CITY/page 3

## Former warden, local jailer book goes behind bars

### STAFF REPORT

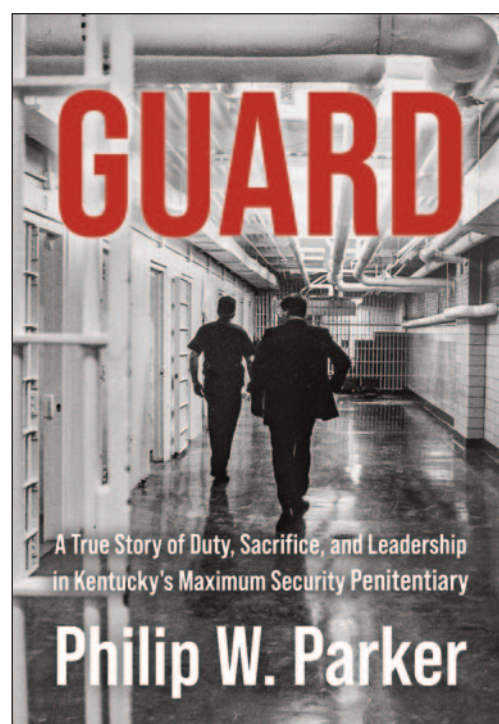
Never-before-revealed stories from behind the curtain at Kentucky State Penitentiary highlight a 354-page memoir titled "Guard" written by Philip Parker, who was warden there for more than a dozen years.

A former Crittenden County resident, Parker is now retired in Florida with his wife Katy. He served as interim Crittenden County jailer in 2013 and 2014.

Former Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Bill Cunningham hails the book as a "vivid and honest account of a life spent managing the worst in human behavior while finding moments of compassion and redemption." Cunningham



Parker



A True Story of Duty, Sacrifice, and Leadership in Kentucky's Maximum Security Penitentiary

Philip W. Parker

See BOOK/page 3

## County takes lower tax rate

### STAFF REPORT

Most Crittenden County taxpayers will see no appreciable difference in what they pay for county property tax this fall.

Magistrates met in special session last week to approve a compensating rate on all real property - such as homes, farms and commercial buildings - at a rate of 11.4 cents per \$100 of assessed value. The rate is 0.4 cents lower than last year's, but will generate roughly the same amount of tax revenue for the county's general fund. That figure is estimated at \$493,414.

Tax bills will go out in a few

See TAX/page 10

The Crittenden Press

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## Deaths

### Carroll

Hazel Murline Carroll, lovingly known as "Murt or Mom" to many, peacefully gained her angel wings on Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2024. A true Christian warrior, her testimony of her personal relationship with the Lord was a great influence on many as she portrayed her beliefs in her daily living. She dearly loved each of her family members and friends. Her favorite things were laughing, singing, playing games (a fierce competitor). An avid cook, she was always ready to help with family dinners, and being a lover of sweets, she was known for sneaking a piece of dessert before the meal.

She married Samuel Brunetti at a young age, becoming a devoted wife and mother of four daughters. After 21 years of marriage, she lost her first love, and remarried Edward (Brad) Carroll, being brought together after they both suffered a great loss of their spouses to cancer.

A woman ahead of her time, her independent thinking and smart wit led to many adventures and projects that were out of the norm for most. She conquered unknown territory during these years, pursuing many passions.

Always a fashionista, she owned a very successful women's clothing business, "Carroll's Fashions," where she would spend countless hours not just being the proprietor and/or a salesperson but connecting with other women that encouraged their self-esteem and self-worth. Each customer was truly important to her, most became not just long-term clientele but friends.

During her retirement, she began other new adventures, including de-

signing and selling homes, traveling the United States, and becoming a loving grandmother.

During her final years she faced dementia and ALS with pure grace. Never wavering, she continued to be the strong Christian warrior that we knew. Throughout this trial, she continued to praise her children, grandchildren, family and God.

She would say that her greatness accomplishments were being a mom, a wife, a grandmother, a sister, a successful businesswoman and child of God.

She was born on March 12, 1936, to Irvin and Mollie Reynolds.

Surviving are four children, Sherri Riley (Terry), Gina Brunetti (Bill Johnson), Cathleen Brunetti Jackson and Carleen Brunetti; five grandchildren, Tara (Josh) Chittenden, Shea (Patrick) Hawkins, Sam (Leslie) Brunetti, Payton (Zak) Blankenship and Kent (Leslie) Riley; 18 great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She will be dearly missed by her family, friends, and all those whose lives she touched with her kindness and generosity.

May she rest in peace and her memory be a blessing to all who knew her.

Services were Sunday, Aug. 25 at Gilbert Funeral Home. Committal was Monday, Aug. 26 at Maplelawn Park Cemetery in Paducah.

You can send flowers to the family, plant a memorial tree in memory of Hazel "Murline" Carroll or contribute to the ALS foundation.

### Girard

Shannon Easley Girard passed away after fighting glioblastoma for nearly six years, never losing her



spirit. The daughter of Nanette and Gerald Easley, sister of Laura, she is a Mayfield native. Shannon lives on through her husband Jack of 30 years, eldest son Ethan, twin daughters Kate and Clare, as well as many dear loved ones. A woman of science, Shannon graduated from Transylvania University and UK's College of Pharmacy, working as a pharmacist for many years in Lexington and surrounding regions. In her spare time, Shannon was an avid reader, activist and concert-goer, known for having the best recommendations around town and proudly making friends wherever she went. Truly a force to be reckoned with, Shannon will always be remembered as a loving mother and a bright, brilliant presence.

Memorial contributions can be made in her name to St. Jude Children's Hospital or a charity of your choice.

A celebration of Shannon's life will take place from 1-4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 7 at the Bell House, 545 Sayre Avenue, Lexington, KY.

### Belt

Marilyn Kay Belt, 67, of Marion, died Friday, Aug. 23, 2024 at her home. She had a lifelong passion for helping others, this showed through her work as a social worker serving for the state cabinet for Families and Children Services, as well as Baptist Heath Paducah, before ending her career as the office manager for Glenn's Apothecary. Outside of work she was an active member of Emmanuel Baptist Church where she served as the WMU director, VBS director, Shine Event Coordinator, as well as being responsible for bringing Celebrate Recovery to Crittenden County in 1999.

She was a devoted Christian, mother, wife, sister, daughter and a friend to all who met her. Recently her heart and worship has been at Salem Baptist Church with her very close

friends and family.

Surviving are her husband, Eddie Belt; three children, Eddie Lee Belt, Adena (Dennis) Lewis and Tashena (Shane) Hill; six grandchildren, Lilly Lewis, Kobe Lewis, Ellee Belt, Sadie Hill, Liam Hill, and Eli Belt; and a brother; Allan Hunt.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Harold R. and Bessie Lee Hunt.

Services were Tuesday, Aug. 27 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in

Mapleview Cemetery.

### Roberts

Gail Roberts, 66, of Marion, died Monday, Aug. 26, 2024 at Deaconess Midtown in Evansville.

Surviving are three children, Allison (Robert) Nesbitt, Tammie (Steve) Ladd and Matt (Amy) Jent; and six grandchildren, Brianna Belt, Sydni (Clayton) Barnes, JoAnna Ladd, Hannah Jent, Karlee Jent and Arrow "Pete" Jent. To her great-grandchildren,

"Gail" was lovingly changed to "Grannie Grail," and those great-grandchildren are Allie Love, Isaiah Watkins, Silis Watkins and Jemma Barnes.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Carlos and Anna Campbell.

Services are at 1 p.m., Friday, Aug. 30 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Mexico Cemetery. The family will receive visitors from 11 a.m., until service time at the funeral home.

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The architectural skematic above illustrates where the existing hospital is located in relationship to the new addition, which will be on the north side nearest US 60 in Salem.



The architectural rendering above illustrates the front of the proposed new hospital in Salem. Plans are to begin construction on the \$70-plus-million-dollar project at some point in 2025, perhaps in the third quarter of the year.

## SALEM

Continued from page 1  
ity right now.

“This could really be a boom for Salem,” said Barry Chittenden, chairman of the hospital board of directors. “Everything seems to be falling into place.”

“I am glad the hospital is coming,” said Elliot West, a local business owner who attended the meeting last week.

Tyler Coleman is branch manager of Farmers Bank in Salem. He believes hospital expansion will spark new growth in the community.

“Because of this, someone considering starting a small business here could be sparked into moving forward with their plans,” Coleman said. “Once the hospital breaks ground, I think you will see more people coming in this direction. I definitely think it will grow our population in Salem.”

He called the hospital a cornerstone of the community and said its growth with directly affect the economy of the entire community.

Kristine Quertermous and her husband James operate Kountry Quisine, a drive-up restaurant not far from the hospital. They are banking on more traffic.

“Everyone in town is excited.

We’re hoping to double our business,” she said. “We have already seen an increase since Deaconess joined the hospital.”

Quertermous said expansion had been on their minds since they opened about two years ago. Now, she’s pretty sure it will happen.

“Eventually we want to have a sit-down restaurant,” she said.

Salem Mayor Gary Damron also believes the town is poised to see some big changes.

“When you talk about a possibly \$78 million project in a little community of just over 700 people, that’s monumental. It’s historic. Just pick your adjective,” the mayor said. “But there are still a lot of unknowns. Just the thought of this kind of investment inside our city limits is huge. I am still trying to wrap my head around it.”

City hall has been receiving calls from people asking various questions about the project. Damron believes housing, particularly temporary housing, will prove to be a great need. He said there is already some talk among investors about such development.

“They’re talking about 25 to 30 permanent jobs at the hospital. That many new jobs in a little town like Salem is a nice

hit,” the mayor added. “During the construction phase, a lot more people will be coming here just to work.”

Already, Livingston Hospital has a \$14 million economic impact on the community, according to hospital CEO Shane Whittington.

At each phase of project development, Salem is almost certain to encounter greater demand for fast-food, restaurants, groceries, fuel and other daily personal needs, said several people who attended last week’s public hearing.

Architects, financial consultants and hospital administrators were among those who made presentations in the hour-long forum before a question and answer session. Details were laid out including a recap of the hospital’s history, why renovation and expansion are needed, how the hospital plans to secure two loans for the project, a tentative timeline and what hospital leaders hope to achieve with expansion. Livingston Hospital, which entered into a formal affiliation agreement with Deaconess Health System in January 2022, has already been growing. It expanded to Marion with a clinic in November of 2023 and only recently dirt work has begun on a new physical ther-

apy unit and clinical services building on property recently purchased next door to the hospital.

The hospital’s ambitious modernization project proposes 60,000 square feet of new construction for patient care, patient rooms, laboratory, radiology, emergency room and more, including modern technology and conveniences. The addition allows for an attractive entrance, an admitting area and lobby. Rooms will provide space and comforts for family visiting and staying overnight with patients, according to information provided at the hearing.

Renovation of the existing hospital building will provide updated space for services such as oncology, pharmacy, kitchen and cafeteria, storage and laundry. The entire facility will be designed for ADA accessibility.

The price tag has gone up a good bit from conception, but designers and financial consultants said that is not uncommon because of lingering effects from COVID pressures on the economy, interest rates, rising labor costs, inflation and other factors. When the plan was first unveiled just more than year ago, the price was pegged at around \$60 million.

Based on the latest figures, it has now potentially gone up about 30 percent. Alan Richman, financial advisor for the project, said that’s not necessarily uncommon.

“Some in this room may say that’s insane,” he said about the eye-catching price tag. “I will explain how to make it make sense. This is not as an extravagant of a project as it might sound. Projects are just expensive. Everything is expensive.”

About \$70 million of the financing for the finished construction and expansion is proposed to come from USDA. Lending terms have not been finalized, but preliminary figures and discussions are based on something like a 40-year, fix-rate loan at 4 percent. The balance of overall costs will be secured through a private bank loan. First, a private construction loan will be needed because USDA does not finance the construction phase, according to the financial consultant.

Hospital leaders hope the USDA loan can be closed in the spring of 2025 with construction to begin in late summer or fall of next year. Those planning the project say the timeline is tentative at this point.

## CITY

Continued from page 1  
comply continues beyond the date fixed for compliance.”

One local property owner, who had apparently received a formal letter from the city, asked council members to rescind ordinances cited in the letter. Most of the ordinances governing properties were adopted in the 1990s when Marion developed a Comprehensive Plan with Planning and Zoning regulations.

“I remember when these ordinances were passed. That means this six-member group can do away with them and let people deal with their property the way they want,” said Bernie Hunt, who discussed properties on Bellville Street, which he said were not occupied or connected to utilities.

Hunt said he was simply “putting a bug” in the ear of council members, reminding them they have the power to

“undo those rules if they choose to.”

Mayor Browning responded that she remains firm on the city’s plans to move forward with enforcement of existing codes and ordinances.

“We have a responsibility in the city to make sure property values are protected and next-door neighbors are safe,” she said during the meeting. “I am strong and firm that if a property is unsafe or unsightly, I owe it to everyone who pays taxes and lives in the city to make sure they do not have to live next to it.”

The mayor went on to point out that almost every other city has similar rules as Marion when it comes to dilapidated homes.

Hunt said inspectors made judgments only by looking at the outside of one of his structures. He said inside there had been a great amount of work, including new flooring and framing.

Later in last week’s city council meeting, the mayor noted that nine more

homes had been identified as part of the ongoing initiative to provide a safer, more appealing community. She pointed out that other cities have adopted codes that would require rental properties to be registered with the city and subject to periodic inspection.

“We may want to talk about something like that,” she said.

Browning pointed out that a recent effort on social media to get residents to report code enforcement violations has been very productive.

“We have received a lot of calls,” the mayor said.

•In other action last week during the monthly city council meeting, council members approved spending \$26,000 for four sets of turnout gear that firemen wear when entering into burning homes. The money will come from American Rescue Plan Act, also known as COVID funding. It will have to be reappropriated to the fire department from funds previously earmarked to re-

pair aging city water lines.

Other residents spoke before the council. One asked about renewing the community’s recycling program and another had a complaint about lawn mowers being used as private transportation, particularly late at night or in the wee hours of the morning.

City Administrator Diane Ford-Benningfield said local officials continue working to renew the recycling effort months after the multi-county recycling center at the West Kentucky Correctional Complex closed. She said a company from Texas is interested in restarting the program, but no target date has been established.

As for mowers on city streets, Police Chief Bobby West said they are considered farm equipment and have few restrictions. He did say that a noise ordinance could be enforced if applicable to a particular situation.

## NEWS SHORTS

### Mail-in ballots available

Mail-in ballots for the November Presidential Election can be requested online starting Sept. 21 at GoVote.ky.gov or by calling Crittenden County Clerk’s office at 270-965-3403.

### Pop-up Driver Center

Caldwell County will have a Pop-Up Driver Licensing center on Sept. 12 at the county’s fiscal courtroom in Princeton.

Online registration opens at 12 a.m., Aug. 28. Go online to Drive.Ky.Gov.

### Military, 1st Responder Night

First responders and retired and active military personnel will be recognized at halftime of Friday’s football game between Crittenden County and Union County. Those individuals will receive free admission to the game at Rocket Arena. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.



Cody Belt of Marion won \$400 last week for capturing first place in the Bonstock division of the Livingston County Fair demolition derby.

## BOOK

Continued from page 1  
authored a book published in 1994 about the prison called “Castle,” so named because of the prison’s medieval look.

The former justice also wrote an introduction that is printed in Parker’s book, which is being published by Genius Books and will be available starting Sept. 13.

“Parker’s memoir takes readers through the emotions and realities of prison life. From handling daily violence and suicides to witnessing murders caused by racial tension and other conflicts, Parker describes the harsh environment of the prison. “Guard” includes detailed accounts of harrowing events, like the highway crime spree where two of his colleagues were shot,” Cunningham wrote.

Parker, 71, was also known for his artistic wood-working and operated a wood kiln at his former home on Lilly Dale Road in southern Crittenden County.

His time as head of Kentucky’s maximum security prison was punctuated by many headlines, including two executions.

Parker grew up in Possum Trot in Marshall County, graduated from North Marshall High School and attended Murray State University before taking a job as a prison guard. He worked himself up and was first a warden in Ohio before coming back to Kentucky where he served two terms as warden of the prison in Ed-dyville. He retired in 2012.

The book includes many stories that have never been told. It describes how he shared a final meal with a death row inmate, helped track down escapees who murdered an elderly couple after breaking out and a hostage negotiation inside the prison walls.

Writing the book took him five years and it was tied up in editing for another three. During that period, Parker admits that he relived painful and emotional moments, which led to his being diagnosed with PTSD, for which is still being treated.

“There is stuff in the book that would otherwise be lost to history,” Parker said by phone last week from his home in Florida. “I kept scrapbooks and have a good memory, plus I had all sorts of resources to help in writing the book such as retired employees. There are some un-

believable stories. Things that happened behind the curtain and never made it into the papers.”

The book’s publisher presents Parker’s account as a story of people and the evolution of the prison itself from an institution with antiquated forms of punishment to more modern approaches to conferment and rehabilitation.

Parker will be present in western Kentucky in September for several book signing events in Murray, Benton, Eddyville and Paducah.

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## Shuecraft earns firefighting status

Logan Shuecraft recently completed state-mandated training hours and obtained his Kentucky Basic 2 Firefighter Certification.

He was presented the certification by Crittenden County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Scott Hurley.

## Extension raises tax rate for 2024; Tradewater up, too

Crittenden County Extension Service has raised its tax rate for the fourth straight year. A proposed rate of 4.4 cents per \$100 of assessed value on real property will be presented to the fiscal court at the September meeting. County officials say they have no jurisdiction over the rate although it's required to be presented to county government for approval. The Extension rate was 4.3 last year and 4.1 and 4.0 over the two previous years. Extension has also proposed a 6.1 rate on personal property, documented watercraft, aircraft and inventory.

Tradewater River Tax District has proposed a considerable rate increase from 33.6 last year to 34.9 for 2024.

## Ervin Cable among 39 recognized by state for safety

Ervin Cable Construction in Sturgis has been recognized by Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet along with more than three dozen Kentucky employers as part of the Governor's Safety and Health Awards for excellence in workplace safety.

Ervin Cable was honored for having more than 2.5 million consecutive hours without a workplace injury, accident or illness resulting in lost time. The cumulative time took the company through calendar year 2023.

During the annual Governor's Safety and Health Conference, 39 companies whose employees collectively logged more than 48.5 million consecutive hours without a lost-time incident were honored. A few others from around western Kentucky were



Riken Elastomers in Hopkinsville, Pennyrile Rural Electric in Hopkinsville, Hopkinsville Water Environment Authority, Carhart Inc.-RCS Customer Service Center in Hanson, Carhart's Madisonville Cutting plant, Madisonville West Side Wastewater Treatment Plant, Evonik in Calvert City, AMG Aluminum North America Henderson Plant in Robards, J-Lok Corporation in Earlington and Preferred Tank & Tower Maintenance Division in Henderson.

## KY income tax rate could go down again

Top Kentucky Republican lawmakers said last week that the state has met financial conditions needed to cut the state's personal income tax rate again. The rate could take effect in 2026.

State budget officials confirmed the financial triggers were satisfied, clearing the way for lawmakers to reduce the individual income tax rate to 3.5% from 4%, effective in January 2026, Sen. Chris McDaniel told the Associated Press. The GOP-dominated legislature can pass the rate cut when it reconvenes next year.

"Kentuckians know best how to spend their money and do so more efficiently than the government," McDaniel, chairman of the Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee, said in a statement. "We are proud to help them and their families keep more of their hard-earned money."

It's a reversal from a year ago, when the Bluegrass State failed to fully meet the financial conditions, meaning the income tax rate will hold steady at 4% this coming January.

Since Republican lawmakers passed a tax overhaul in 2022, the personal income tax has gradually been reduced by increments of a half-percentage point, conditioned on meeting benchmarks that ensure revenues are sufficient to meet state spending needs.

Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear, who has presided over record-setting economic development growth during his tenure, said in a social media post that the prospect of another individual income tax rate cut in 2026 was more good news for the state. Republican lawmakers attribute the strong economic growth to business-friendly policies they passed.

## Salem Day Sept. 14

Salem Day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14. A full day of family fun is on tap with vendors, food, inflatables, face painting, balloon art, giveaways and music.

## Smith gets APSU scholarship offer

Livingston County resident Emma-Leigh Smith has been offered a transfer scholarship at Austin Peay State University for Fall of 2024-25 academic year.

## State ham brings in \$10.5 million bid

Last Thursday's 60th annual Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) Country Ham Breakfast and Charity Auction at the Kentucky State Fair brought in an astounding winning bid of \$10.5 million from Kelly and Joe Craft.

During a live auction, prominent community and business leaders bid for a chance to walk away with the Kentucky State Fair's Grand Champion Country Ham. Weighing in at 18.2 lbs., the prized ham was produced by Broadbent B&B based in Kuttawa. The winning bid was the largest single bid in the event's history. For the previous three years, the Crafts and Central Bank combined their bids. In 2023, their combined winning bid was \$10 million.

"My husband and I are honored to have won the charity auction for the Kentucky State Fair Grand Champion Ham at the 60th annual Country Ham Breakfast," said Kelly Craft, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.

The Crafts will donate their \$10.5 million bid to several charitable organizations and projects, including Boys and Girls Clubs across the commonwealth, and continued rebuilding efforts in eastern Kentucky to help families who lost everything in the 2022 floods.

## County offices will be closed for holiday

Crittenden County Office Complex will be closed Labor Day Holiday. This closure includes the offices of Judge Executive, County Clerk, Property Valuation Administration and the Sheriff's Office as well as the Road Department.

Additionally, the Marion Convenience Center and Crittenden County Animal Shelter will be closed to the public on Saturday, Aug. 31, as well as on Labor Day. In case of an emergency, contact Marion Dispatch at (270) 965-3500 or your district's magistrate.

# Increased revenue from rates, not reassessments

As fall approaches, taxing districts are busy setting tax rates. These rates in combination with real property assessments set by my office (Crittenden County PVA) are used to calculate your total tax bill.

However, many taxpayers may be unaware of the relationship between the total real estate assessment of the county and the rates that taxing districts are allowed to set. House Bill 44 (originally enacted in 1979) establishes the compensating rate for taxing districts. This is a rate, when applied to the current year's assessment of real property, excluding new property (new construction), will produce an amount of revenue approximately equal (never less) as that produced the previous year. Therefore, as real property assessments rise, the tax rate is rolled back to keep the revenue generated from the existing real property assessments about the same.

As an example, if a county's assessment level was \$100 million and a taxing district had a rate of \$0.20/\$100 in assessed value, the taxing district would receive revenue of \$200,000. If assessments (excluding new construction) rose to \$150 million the following year, a compensating rate would be calculated to allow the district to generate approximately \$200,000 again. This rate would be \$0.134/\$100.

KRS 68.245 provides that local taxing districts also have the option of setting a tax rate that would generate no more revenue than 4% greater than the revenue from the previous year. In the example



above, a 4% increase in revenue would be \$208,000. The rate to achieve this would be \$0.138/\$100.

As you can see in these examples, an increase in property values from \$100 million to \$150 million would reduce a compensating rate from \$0.20/\$100 to \$0.134/\$100. If the taxing district chose the 4% increase the rate would be \$0.138/\$100.

Many taxing districts this year saw a reduction in their compensating rate from their current rate. The 2023 tax rate for the Crittenden County Fiscal Court was \$0.118/\$100 and their 2024 compensating rate is \$0.114/\$100. If the fiscal court took a 4% increase in revenue that rate would be \$0.118/\$100, the same as 2023. The fiscal court could leave the rate the same and generate more revenue, therefore passing a tax increase on current properties.

The 2023 tax rate for the Crittenden County Board of Education was \$0.516/\$100 and their 2024 compensating rate is \$0.492/\$100. The rate to generate a 4% increase in revenue is \$0.514/\$100 which is less than the current rate. If the school board chooses this option, they can state to have lowered their tax rate when they have passed a tax increase because they chose a rate

higher than the compensating rate.

Any rate higher than the compensating rate is a tax increase. I'm not saying these districts do or do not need the additional funding. We all know that inflation has driven up costs. Those elected or appointed to the taxing districts know the finances of their respective districts. What I am saying is that any increase in revenue over the previous year other than that realized from new property (new construction) is a result of a tax rate higher than the compensating rate.

As PVA, I am statutorily required to assess real property at 100% fair cash value. The real estate market since COVID has been extremely hot. Houses are selling for 1.5, 2 and 3 times the values my office has them assessed for. Houses assessed for \$90,000 by my office are selling at between \$175,000 and \$200,000 or more. The state audits my office annually on how well I have properties assessed compared to what they sold for. Currently, the state is satisfied with ratios in the 90% range and for the past few years we have been in the 75% range.

I will own increased property assessments that may increase an individual's property tax bill from the previous year. However, I ask taxing districts that choose a rate above compensating rate to own the tax increase that generates the additional revenue from county taxpayers as a whole and not say the increase in total revenue is from an increase in property values.



## 10 YEARS AGO

August 28, 2014

■ The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge to bring awareness to the disease came to the Crittenden County Courthouse, where Police Chief Ray O'Neal, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, Jailer Phil Parker and Commonwelath Attorney Zac Greenwell were doused with the cold stuff after being challenged by preschool teacher Angel McDonald and her student Lanie Greenwell.

\*Winners in the youth triathlon at Marion Country Club were Morgan Stewart, Ethan Thomas, Rashelle Stahlgren, Hayden Cavanah, Kate Keller and Jayden Carlson.

■ Crittenden County outscored Fulton 37-6 in its season-opening football game. Dylan Hollis led rushers with 126 yards. Noah Dickerson had 68 yards receiving.

■ Carsen Easley earned the Glen A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award from the Lincoln Heritage Council for his project to clean and repair more than 250 headstones in Hurricane Cemetery.

## 25 YEARS AGO

August 26, 1999

■ Kelsey Thompson of Marion, diagnosed a year earlier with leukemia, earned a Caribbean trip from the Dream Factory in Paducah.

■ Brad Madden hit a game-winning field goal in the Rockets' 12-9 overtime win against Murray High at Roy Stewart Stadium.

■ Crittenden Countians won less money playing the Kentucky Lottery than any of the 28 counties in the Western Sales Region. Crittenden lottery players won \$230,409 between July 1, 1998 and June 30, 1999 - \$28,000 less than Carlisle County's 27th ranking. Union County residents won the highest amount in the region at \$1.29 million.

## 50 YEARS AGO

August 29, 1974

■ When schools opened for the new school year, there were 1,772 students enrolled, including 143 at Mattoon, 149 at Tolu, 188 at Frances, 332 at Fohs Hall, 379 at Marion Elementary and 578 at Crittenden County High School.

■ Some of the mail carriers affected by a change in rural route delivery in Crittenden County were B.C. McNeely, Herschel Love, Raymond Patmor, William Arflack and Robert Rogers.

■ Crittenden County Future Farmers of America James Guess, Barry Workman, Baron Guess, Ricky James and Bradly Hines attended the Kentucky State Fair.

■ 4-Hers Shirley Bates, Craig Teer, Bert Papineau, Jackie Hocking, Terri Guess and Fran O'Hara studied electricity during their stay at West Kentucky 4-H Camp.

■ Garland Trimble, chief of Crittenden County Rescue Squad, received a Smokey Bear Appreciation plaque for outstanding service from Don Hodge, Crittenden County Forest Ranger.

■ Mike Taylor scored Crittenden's only touchdown and two-point conversion in a 18-8 loss to Caldwell County.

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

## Crittenden Press

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Chris Evans | Editor and Publisher

Allison Evans | Advertising Manager

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# Religion *The Crittenden Press*

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## Be aware of the impact your words have on others

It was time for the 10 o'clock news, but it is political party convention season. I had naively hoped it would finish on time. Instead, I watched as John Legend performed the Prince song, "Let's Go Crazy." I couldn't turn away. The thought occurred, "I wonder what those who signed the Declaration of Independence would think of this?"



**Sean NIESTRATH**  
Faith-based columnist  
**Guest Columnist**

One side invokes the name of God and proceeds to hurl middle school personal insults at the other party. The other side invokes the name of God and twists the beautiful concepts of "love" and "inclusiveness" to fit their own definitions. Both attempting to make us feel better about one party while feeling the other is an existential danger to our civilization. The word "feel" is important here because it helps obfuscate policy and think-

ing. Rhetoric intended to create enough noise to drown out the humanity of other human beings.

Our words matter – a lot. As one who speaks publicly and writes more than most, I am aware of this. There is a 100% chance that I will, at some point, misspeak or write something that is clear to me but not to anyone else. I will be misunderstood, misinterpreted, and talked about. It goes with the territory. This is why it is so important to guard our hearts and keep in line with the better parts of ourselves.

Proverbs 18:8 is true to our experience, "The words of a whisperer are like delicious morsels; they go down into the inner parts of the body." Words that are spoken that are intended to demean or hurt us get deep into us and it is difficult not to inflict the same on

others.

There are those who cleverly use words to manipulate a reaction from others for their own gain. Even here their cleverness betrays their foolishness. "The words of one's mouth are deep waters." (Prov. 18:4a) There are those who speak and have no care or idea of the implications of what they say. They will take no responsibility for their words' impact on the gullible. These are words that make life more turbid and obscure. This is not deep clear water. It is deep muddy water. The second part of Proverbs 18 is the opposite, "The fountain of wisdom is a gushing stream." This is clear, fresh, life-giving water.

On Sundays, those who listen to one side or the other, or neither side, and manage to maintain their faith, gather for worship. We gather with no flags waving. We are not "blue" or "red." We gather as flawed human beings in the process of being made whole. It is not only individuals that need healing, but also all of us – together.

In his encouragement

to churches that were having trouble because of societal pressure James writes, "For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by human-kind, but no human being can tame the tongue – a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brethren, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening fresh water and brackish? Can a fig tree, my brethren, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh." (James 3:8-12).

Disagreeing on policy about how to take care of each other and maintain law and economic stability is to be expected and necessary. It may well even get emotional and animated – and it should. However, the words we use to make those arguments matter for those who claim faith in the God described in the Bible.

The Preacher has good

insight for us in Ecclesiastes 5:1-3, "Guard your steps when you go to the house of God; to draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools; for they do not know that they are doing evil. Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven, and you upon earth; therefore let your words be few. For a

dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words."

Be careful little mouth what you say. Be careful little fingers what you type. Be careful little ears what you hear.

*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.*

## How do I set aside time to be continuously in prayer?

**Question:** 1 Thessalonians 5:17 tells us to "pray continually." When I think of praying, I think of set aside times to speak from my heart to God at bedtime, meals and times of decision or crises. With my multitude of continued daily activities and responsibilities I can't continually set aside time to pray. How then can I "pray continually?"

**Answer:** Recently, I read an article, "Constant" by Dawn Sherill-Porter in the Bible Studies for Life, Adult Personal Study Guide for Spring 2024 that helped me understand the concept of praying continually. Perhaps her thoughts will help you, too. "Continual prayer

### Ask the Pastor

By Bob Hardison

comes when we have an attitude of heart that recognizes God's continual presence with us and continual involvement in our lives.

The truth that God resides within His people is stated numerous times in the New Testament. In Jesus' communion for all believers, he prayed, "I in them and you (speaking of the Father) in me" (Jn. 17:23). He encourages His disciples just before his cru-

cifixion, "You know him (the Holy Spirit), for he lives with you and will be in you" (Jn. 14:17).

Knowing that God lives within us and is mindful of

our every thought, we can confidently talk with Him in an ongoing and never-ending conversation. He is always listening and desires to communicate with us. Through our continual communication with our Father, we can seek His guidance and listen to His heart as we go about our daily lives.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

## Religious Outreach

■ 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.

■ Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.

■ Salem Baptist Celebrate Recovery meets Monday's 5:30 p.m. with a meal at 6 p.m., at 209 Highland Street, opposite side of the building from the Thrift Store.

■ Salem Baptist Church Thrift Store is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday at 209 Highland St., Salem.

■ The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 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.

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# Tolu, Crittenden Springs and Salem hoped for railroad

From the archives of The Crittenden Press we find other railroad items of interest from yesterday. Although the rumor for several years was the hopes of a railroad that would run by the famed Crittenden Springs Hotels and the nearby rich mining fields, it never came to be. It turned out to be just "Railroad Rumors."

The first train to run through Crittenden County on the newly laid tracks was in September 1887. What an exciting day that was, a new era for the county.

In June of 1888, The Crittenden Press tells us that the rapid and permanent improvement going on in and around Marion since the completion of the Ohio Valley Railway shows to any observing mind that the location and advantages surrounding our town is a most desirable place, in this portion of the state, for a permanent home.

Hopes and plans for the iron tracks to extend further out into the Crittenden's countryside and continue on to Tolu and the Ohio River and connect with the track in Hardin County was indeed just a dream. What a boost it would be for the Crittenden Springs Hotel, visitors from miles away would have a faster and more comfortable ride to the springs other than in a wagon or buggy that they would have to rent from the Marion Depot. Also the nearby rich mineral fields of zinc and spar would have a convenient way to load and haul their products other than by mule and wagon.

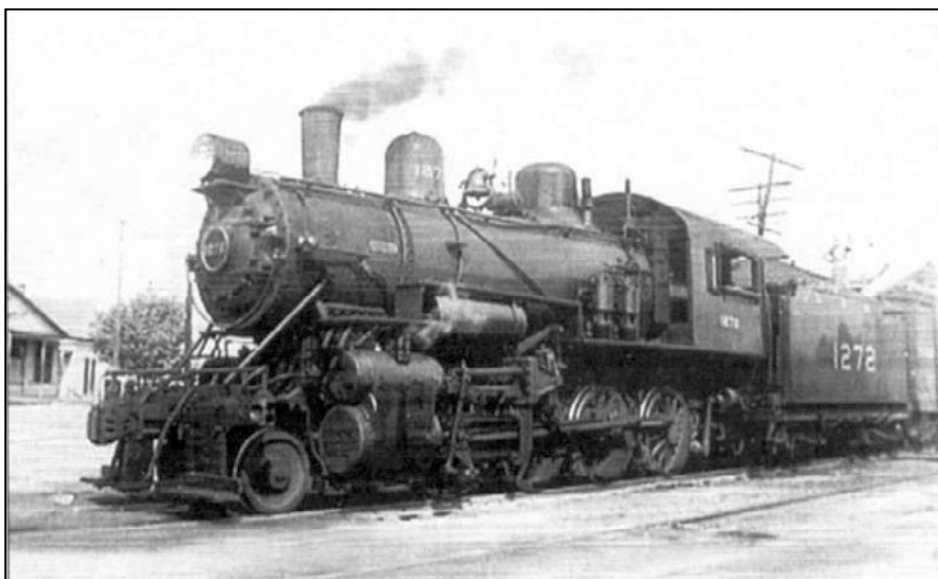
Tolu felt so confident at the time it would be a reality that on the first plat of the town there was a street named Railroad Avenue.

Here is some interesting news of these early railroad hopes and dreams

## Dec. 9, 1897 - They Want a Railroad

Railroad talk is the order of the day at present, and we hope that before the wane of many moons, we can hear the shrill whistle of the mighty mogul as she pulls in from St. Louis to Marion via Tolu.

Last week a number of the citizens of Marion were invited and requested earnestly to meet a delegation of Elizabethtown, Ill., at Tolu for the purpose of considering ways and means to invest capital in the construction of a railroad from Marion via Tolu to Elizabethtown and then to some railroad



The locomotive of long ago was the subject of many rumors of hope for an additional railroad through the western part of the Crittenden County to the Ohio River where it would connect with Southern Illinois and beyond.

point north.

Mr. J.W. Guess of Tolu was in town Monday, and in an interview The Press found him very much interested in the talked-of railroad from Harrisburg, Ill., via Elizabethtown, Ill., Tolu, Ky., to Marion.



**Brenda Underdown**  
County Historian

*Forgotten Passages*

He says Chicago capital is interested to some extent in the matter and he thinks that, if the county to be traversed by the proposed road, will show the proper inter-

est, the enterprise will assume tangible shape.

The distance from Harrisburg to Marion is said to be 52 miles, and the county along the route for miles on either side is without any railroad facilities whatever, and is furthermore a fine agricultural region and its exports in this line alone, to say nothing of the varied mineral interests that would be developed by a railroad, would be an item worth the serious consideration of capital.

## Oct. 17, 1901 - Surveying the River Landing

The readers of The Press are aware that the Illinois Central Railroad has had a pair of surveyors at work for nearly a year on the farm of Mr. R. N. Walker on the Ohio River, and at Cave-in-Rock, Ill., surveying and sounding the river, apparently searching for a suitable place to bridge the Ohio River. The route of a railroad has been surveyed through Illinois from St. Louis to the Ohio River at Cave-In-Rock. The river has been tested for solid foundation every 200 feet from the Kentucky side to the Illinois shore.

All this work has been done quietly, the parties in charge of the work refusing to give any information whatever.

William Sloan, a prom-

inent Illinois Central Railroad official, came to Cave-in-Rock to view the work of the surveying party a few days ago and stated that the railroad was a certainly. He talked the situation over with the businessmen of that little city. The surveyed route, as is known, on this side of the Ohio River comes by the way of Crittenden Springs to Marion. The Hardin County New Era says in speaking of the railroad: "The road, when completed, will be a through trunk line from St. Louis, Chicago and the North, to Nashville and the South. The line will probably be completed and in operation within two years."

## Aug. 13, 1909 - Still Hoping

Lige Curry, who is lumbering below Golconda, tells his brother-in-law, Lee Yeakey a day or two ago that actual work was in progress on the new railroad building from Golconda up the river to Elizabethtown and that from inside sources he had also learned that the road was heading for Cave-In-Rock where in due time the system promulgating the scheme expect to bridge the Ohio River and run out to Marion, via the famed Crittenden Springs, as now a vast summer resort with a large hotel, crowded at this very time with visitors mostly from Evansville and Louisville yet this new line is designed to open this great watering place more advantageous to St. Louis and Chicago society people. It is 7 miles due south of Cave-in-Rock. This was good news to Mr. Yeakey who owns the Cave-in-Rock land near where the north piers of the contemplated bridge will rest on solid limestone.

## May 12, 1910 - Still Surveying

With all that has been said and done it is a certainty that Louisville capitalists will soon build a railroad through Crittenden County. The sur-

veyors have been at work now for several weeks and at last they have completed the task as far as ordered. The survey accepted extends to the Commodore mines eight miles from Marion. Those in a position to know claim the road will be extended either to the Ohio River, or pushed through to Paducah.

The railroad movement has been quietly worked and but few really know the intentions of the promoters. John W. Wilson seems to be taking a deep interest in the movement but gives out very meagerly anything more than it will be built to the Commodore. But this is sufficient grounds for the prediction, that if it is built to the great rich Commodore mines, that it will be extended further.

## May 1927 - Salem Railroad Prospects Good

At one time there was hope for a railroad from Marion to Salem for purpose transporting Livingston's fluorspar products to Marion depot for further transportation. And the new Federal highway was being built at this time and the railroad

could transport material for surfacing the nearby highway.

Prospects grow more encouraging for the successful completion of a projected standard gauge railroad from Marion to Salem.

W. S. Lowery, who is in charge of the preliminary details connected with the work, has received from a Chicago investment company blank forms for securing the right of way. In a letter from the company it states, we have read your letters very carefully and have studied the blue print, as well as other maps of the locality; and have also secured other data, and have concluded that a railroad between Salem and Marion, would judging from such tentative investigations, no doubt receive a great deal of tonnage; for more than enough to make the rail-

road just self supporting.

I found no information telling about the end of these surveys or why they failed, but as many projects, it was probably found to be too expensive, not profitable, and people lost interest over the years of working on a lost cause.

But it's nice to remember our railroad tracks and the big black locomotives that ran on them years ago and long to hear the clickety-clack of their steel wheels and the blowing of their whistle as they made their way across our countryside.

(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](http://OurForgottenPassages.blogspot.com).)



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Check our prices: Yoder's Logging, 8670 Fords Ferry Rd., Marion. (4t-35-p)

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**legal notice**

Notice is hereby given that on August 21, 2024 David Scott Gregory of 1316 OB McDaniel Rd., Marion, KY 42064 was appointed executor of Cheri Gregory, deceased, whose address

was 1848 U.S. Hwy. 60 West, Marion, KY 42064. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executor before the 26th day of February, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately. Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-35-c)

Advertise your job opening, event, items for sale, auction etc. in this newspa-

per plus 83 other Kentucky newspapers including The Paducah Sun, Kentucky New Era (Hopkinsville), The Sturgis News, The (Princeton) Times Leader, The (Providence) Journal-Enterprise, The Union County Advocate, The Henderson Gleaner, The Livingston Ledger and The (Madisonville) Messenger and for only \$250. Save time and money by making one call for all! For more information, contact the classified department at (270) 965-3191 or email us at advertising@the-press.com.

**bid notice**

The Crittenden County

Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for 2 GE Electric Ranges, 1 RCA Electric Range, 1 Roper Refrigerator (14 cubic feet), 53 rolling chairs with metal seats, 3 regular chairs, large wooden podium and wooden bookshelf. Sealed bids must be submitted to CCBOE at 601 West Elm Street, Marion, KY by Friday, Sept. 6, 2024 at 1 p.m. at which time they will be opened. For more information, contact Brian Kirby at (270) 704-1166. Crittenden County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids. (1t-35-c)

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**The Crittenden County Extension Board District's most recent audit and adopted budget can be viewed anytime on the Department for Local Government's Public Portal website.**

If you would like to view our most recent financial statement, please visit us at our home office located at 1534 US Highway 60 East, Marion Ky. 42064, during our normal office hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed from 12 p.m. -1 p.m.).

This ad was paid for by Crittenden County Extension Office dollars. <http://kydlgweb.ky.gov/> Per KRS 65A.080(2)

In accordance with Chapters 65A.080 (2), KRS 424.220 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, the Fiscal Year 2024 financial report and supporting data may be inspected by the general public at the Crittenden County Conservation District located at 118 East Bellville Street, Marion, KY, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Crittenden County Conservation District holds its scheduled regular monthly board meetings at the office at 6:30 p.m. CST or 7 p.m. DST on the 3rd Thursday of each month. All meetings are open to the public.

*The Conservation District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

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**WATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION - PHASE I (GENERATOR) CRITTENDEN-LIVINGSTON WATER UTILITY DISTRICT**

**II. Advertisement for Bids**

Project No. 924101005 Date of Ad: August 29, 2024

CRITTENDEN-LIVINGSTON WATER UTILITY DISTRICT (Owner)

Separate sealed bids for WATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION - PHASE I (GENERATOR)

Will be received by CRITTENDEN-LIVINGSTON WATER UTILITY DISTRICT at the office of 620 EAST MAIN STREET, SALEM, KENTUCKY 42078

until 10:00 a.m. (CST) 11:00 a.m. (EST) September 9, 2024, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The Information for Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications and Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bond, and other contract documents may be examined at the following:

Hussey Gay Bell - Nashville, LLC; 4117 Hillsboro Pike, Suite 206; Nashville, Tennessee 37215  
Builders Exchange of Kentucky; 2300 Meadow Drive; Louisville, Kentucky 40218

Copies may be obtained at the office of Hussey Gay Bell - Nashville, LLC located at 4117 Hillsboro Pike, Suite 206; Nashville, Tennessee 37215, upon payment of \$50.00 for each DIGITAL set and \$100.00 for each PAPER set (non-refundable).

Each bidder must deposit with his bid, security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders.

The owner reserves the right to waive any formalities or to reject any or all bids. Each bidder must deposit his bid security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the contract. These include Section 3, Segregated Facility, Section 109 and E.O. 11246. Further, Title VI Minority bidders are encouraged to bid.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

8/29/24 (Date)  
*(Signature)*  
Justin Robinette, PE, Principal (Name, Title)

**CRITTENDEN-LIVINGSTON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT CUSTOMER NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Crittenden Livingston County Water District expects to file an application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission on or about August 14, 2024, seeking approval of a proposed adjustment to its water rates. The proposed rates shall not become effective until the Public Service Commission has issued an order approving these rates.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED MONTHLY RATES Crittenden Livingston County Water District					
CURRENT RATE SCHEDULE		PROPOSED RATE SCHEDULE		DIFFERENCE PERCENT	
<b>5/8" X 3/4" Meters</b>					
First	1,000 gallons \$ 24.76 Minimum Bill	First	1,000 gallons \$ 28.95 Minimum Bill	\$ 4.19	16.94%
Next	9,000 gallons 14.08 per 1,000 gallons	Next	9,000 gallons 16.46 per 1,000 gallons	2.38	16.94%
Next	10,000 gallons 12.06 per 1,000 gallons	Next	10,000 gallons 14.10 per 1,000 gallons	2.04	16.94%
Over	20,000 gallons 9.52 per 1,000 gallons	Over	20,000 gallons 11.13 per 1,000 gallons	1.61	16.94%
<b>1" Meters</b>					
First	5,000 gallons \$ 81.08 Minimum Bill	First	5,000 gallons \$ 94.81 Minimum Bill	\$ 13.73	16.94%
Next	5,000 gallons 14.08 per 1,000 gallons	Next	5,000 gallons 16.46 per 1,000 gallons	2.38	16.94%
Next	10,000 gallons 12.06 per 1,000 gallons	Next	10,000 gallons 14.10 per 1,000 gallons	2.04	16.94%
Over	20,000 gallons 9.52 per 1,000 gallons	Over	20,000 gallons 11.13 per 1,000 gallons	1.61	16.94%
<b>2" Meters</b>					
First	15,000 gallons \$ 211.78 Minimum Bill	First	15,000 gallons \$ 247.65 Minimum Bill	\$ 35.87	16.94%
Next	5,000 gallons 12.06 per 1,000 gallons	Next	5,000 gallons 14.10 per 1,000 gallons	2.04	16.94%
Over	20,000 gallons 9.52 per 1,000 gallons	Over	20,000 gallons 11.13 per 1,000 gallons	1.61	16.94%
<b>3" Meters</b>					
First	50,000 gallons N/A Minimum Bill	First	50,000 gallons 652.05 Minimum Bill	N/A	N/A
Over	50,000 gallons N/A per 1,000 gallons	Over	50,000 gallons 11.13 per 1,000 gallons	N/A	N/A
<b>4" Meters</b>					
First	75,000 gallons N/A Minimum Bill	First	75,000 gallons 930.30 Minimum Bill	N/A	N/A
Over	75,000 gallons N/A per 1,000 gallons	Over	75,000 gallons 11.13 per 1,000 gallons	N/A	N/A
<b>Bulk Sales</b>					
	\$ 9.52 per 1,000 gallons		\$ 11.13 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.61	16.94%
<b>Wholesale Rate</b>					
	\$ 3.34 per 1,000 gallons		\$ 3.91 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 0.57	16.94%
<b>Tap Fee</b>					
5/8" x 3/4"	\$ 750.00	5/8" x 3/4"	\$ 1,114.00	\$ 364.00	48.53%
1"	850.00	1"	1,462.00	612.00	72.00%

If the Public Service Commission approves the proposed water rates, then the monthly water bill for a customer using an average of 4,000 gallons per month will increase from \$67.00 to \$78.35. This is an increase of \$11.35 or 16.94%. Further, a table representing the increase for an average customer for each usage class is shown below.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED BILLS Crittenden Livingston County Water District					
Gallons per Month*	Meter Size	Existing Bill	Proposed Bill	Change	Percentage
4,000	5/8 x 3/4"	67.00	78.35	11.35	16.94%
5,000	1"	81.08	94.81	13.73	16.94%
25,000	2"	319.68	373.83	54.15	16.94%
180,000	3"	N/A	2,321.55	N/A	N/A
180,000	4"	N/A	2,098.95	N/A	N/A

The rates contained in this notice are the rates proposed by Crittenden-Livingston County Water District. However, the Public Service Commission may order rates to be charged that differ from these proposed rates. Such action may result in rates for consumers other than the rates shown in this notice.

Crittenden-Livingston County Water District has available for inspection at its office the application which it submitted to the Public Service Commission. A person may examine this application at the Association's office located at 620 E Main St, Salem, KY 42078. You may contact the office at 270-988-2680.

A person may also examine the application at the Public Service Commission's offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or through the Public Service Commission's website at <http://psc.ky.gov>. Comments regarding the application may be submitted to the Public Service Commission through its website or by mail to Public Service Commission, PO Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40602. You may contact the Public Service Commission at 502-564-3940.

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

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# SportsShorts

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Rocket sports schedule

#### THURSDAY

Soccer at McLean County  
Volleyball at Livingston Central  
Golf at Deer Lakes  
MS Softball at Union County

#### FRIDAY

Rockets host Union County

#### SATURDAY

Cross Country at Murray

#### TUESDAY

Soccer at Union County  
MS Softball hosts Lyon County

## FOOTBALL

### Junior Pro Schedule

#### CRITTENDEN COUNTY

Sep 7 Hopkins County, 10am  
Sep 14 Trigg County, 11am  
Sep 21 Caldwell County, 11am  
Sep 28 at Union County, 6pm  
Oct 5 Union County, 10am  
Oct 19 at Trigg County, 10am  
Oct 26 at Webster County, 10am  
Nov 2-3 Jamboree at Trigg County

### Last week scores

#### FOOTBALL IN WEST KY

Bethlehem 37, Marshall Co. 13  
Caldwell Co. 42, Hopkins Central 6  
Caverna 56, Muhlenberg County 44  
Clarksville NW 35, Fort Campbell 16  
Gleason, Tenn. 34, Fulton Co. 28  
Graves Co. 35, Mayfield 28  
Greenwood 34, Hopkinsville 32  
Hancock County, Tenn. 21, Harlan 10  
Madisonville 34, Union Co. 6  
McLean Co. 44, Ohio Co. 6  
Monroe Co. 44, Todd Co. Central 13  
Owensboro Catholic 50, Apollo 13  
South Fulton 40, Ballard Memorial 22  
Trigg Co. 39, Calloway Co. 21  
Union City, Tenn. 35, Murray 28  
Warren Central 8, Russellville 6  
Warren East 55, Christian Co. 6

## GOLF

### Deer Lakes tournaments

•The annual Crittenden County Fire Department Zach Latham Fundraising Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, Sept. 7 at Deer Lakes Golf Course in Salem. This will be a four-person scramble with various prizes. To register call Chris Cooksey at 270-704-1116.

•The annual Deer Lakes Golf Course Orange Jacket Invitational will be Sept. 14-15. Entry fee is \$125, which includes cart and play each day, a free practice round and a meal after Sunday's round. Tee times are available for 8 a.m., or 1:30 p.m. This tournament is individual stroke play. To register, call 270-988-4653.

## OUTDOORS

### Hunting Seasons

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

Bullfrog	May 17 - Oct. 31
Squirrel Fall	Aug. 17 - Nov. 8
Canada Goose	Sept. 1-15
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 26
Deer Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Turkey Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Canada Goose	Sept. 16-30
Teal	Sept. 21 - Sept. 29
Wood Duck	Sept. 21 - Sept. 25
Deer Crossbow	Sept. 21 - Jan. 20
Raccoon	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Turkey Crossbow	Oct. 1-20
Deer Youth	Oct. 12-13
Deer Muzzleloader	Oct. 19-20
Turkey Shotgun	Oct. 26 - Nov. 1
Woodcock	Oct. 26 - Nov. 8
Deer Rifle	Nov. 9 - Nov. 24
Turkey Crossbow	Nov. 9 - Dec. 31
Rabbit	Nov. 11 - Feb. 10
Quail	Nov. 11 - Feb. 10
Raccoon Trapping	Nov. 11 - Feb. 28
Woodcock	Nov. 11 - Dec. 11
Bobcat	Nov. 16 - Feb. 28
Squirrel Fall	Nov. 28 - Feb. 15
Dove	Nov. 28 - Dec. 8
Duck	Nov. 28 - Dec. 1
Canada Goose	Nov. 28 - Feb. 15
Coyote Night (lights)	Dec. 1 - March 31
Duck	Dec. 7 - Jan. 31
Turkey Shotgun	Dec. 7-13
Deer Muzzleloader	Dec. 14-22
Dove	Dec. 21 - Jan. 12
Deer Youth Free	Dec. 28-29
Coyote	Year Round
Ground hog	Year Round

FOLLOW THE ROCKETS AT THE PRESS ONLINE

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Rocket running back Jacob Carder caught a pass and had two rushing attempts against Webster.



Caden Howard



CamRon Belcher

# Rocket offense teaches Webster math lesson

STAFF REPORT

Examining the numbers, Crittenden County's opening football game of the 2024 season spelled a bad night for Webster County.

The algebraic equation of X plus Y plus Z equaled seven touchdowns for the Rockets as they worked up a tough math lesson in a 46-18 victory Friday at Rocket Stadium.

Quarterback Quinn Summers gave offensive coordinator Austin Berry some big props, too, for designing the Xs and Os that slashed Webster from head to toe. The Rockets scored five unanswered TDs in the first half, four on passing plays triggered by Summers, a junior in his first varsity start.

CamRon Belcher, a senior who plays the X receiver position in CCHS's spread offense, caught four passes for 84 yards in the first two periods, and the Rocket Z receiver Caden Howard hauled in five catches for 78 yards. Howard scored twice and Belcher once in the opening half and Y receiver Dakota Sosh tacked on another. Summers rushed for a touchdown too just before the break to give his team a 33-0 lead.

"It was a great night, starting off with Coach Berry on the sideline. Game-planning every week he always has the best game plan setting us up to win," said Summers. "And my receiving corps, they always make me look good. With Coach Berry's awesome play calling and to have those receivers out there with the

speed and hands that they do it creates mismatches on each side."

In the second half, Belcher schooled Webster's special teams with a lesson no one will ever forget when he returned a punt and kickoff back-to-back, both went for 83 yards and he finished the game with 250 all-purpose yards. The senior's performance added a history lesson to the equation, too, as he became the first Rocket to score a punt return and kickoff return in the same game. His punt return was the third longest in history.

Summers was deadly accurate, shredding the Trojan secondary with 10 straight completions at one point. He didn't throw a single pass in the second half and finished with 214 yards on 12-for-15 accuracy.

Adri Berry became the first female to score a point in a Rocket football game when she kicked an extra point in the first half. She hit another in the third period. Berry is the freshman daughter of Coach Berry.

For Webster, more was less when it came to the numbers game. Although the Trojans had more first downs and out-rushed the Rockets by a wide margin, they were sorely deficient on the scoreboard. Most of Webster's yards were piled up late in the game under a running clock against Crittenden reserve defense.

The Trojans turned the ball over three times as Sosh intercepted a pass and Jantzen Fowler and Howard had fumble recoveries. The Rockets turned the ball over once.

Crittenden's starting defense was on its heels for a handful of plays, but after Webster moved the chains a couple of times right out of the chute, the Rockets adjusted. Middle linebacker Brayden Poindexter had a dozen solo tackles and Howard posted eight to lead the defense.

Crittenden will be at home this week against Union County. The Braves lost 34-6 to Madisonville last week.

#### SCORE BY QUARTERS

Webster Co.	0	0	6	12
Crittenden	8	25	13	0

#### SCORING PLAYS

C-Caden Howard 17 pass from Quinn Summers (Brayden Poindexter pass from Tyree McLean) 6:19, 1st  
C-CamRon Belcher 63 pass from Summers (no attempt bad snap) 11:04, 2nd  
C-Dakota Sosh 25 pass from Summers (Adri Berry kick) 8:27, 2nd  
C-Howard 24 pass from Summers (kick blocked) 7:11, 2nd  
C-Summers 6 run (kick failed) 4:46, 2nd  
C-Belcher 83 punt return (Berry kick) 3:04, 3rd  
W-Tyler Kautzman 1 run (run failed) 5:09, 3rd  
C-Belcher 83 kickoff return (kick failed) 3:04, 3rd  
W-Ty Phillips 6 run (run failed) 9:36, 4th  
W-Preston Doepel 30 pass from Zander Synder, 0:00

#### TEAM TOTALS

First Downs: CCHS 4, WCHS 10  
Penalties: CCHS 5-45, WCHS 6-41  
Rushing: CCHS 6-19, WCHS 46-210  
Passing: CCHS 12-16-0, 214; WCHS 2-7-1, 40

Total Yards: CCHS 233, WCHS 250  
Fumbles/Lost: CCHS 1-1, WCHS 3-2

#### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

##### Rushing

CCHS: Jacob Carder 2-16, Brayden Mahnke 1-5, Michael Porter 1-0, Conner Poindexter 1-(-8), Summers 1-6. WCHS: Kautzman 4-10, Phillips 10-51, Derek Adams 12-83, Domi Starks 1-(-2), Doepel 10-36, Zander Snyder 2-9, Keaton Garrett 5-2, Dylan Poe 1-14, Connor Bloodworth 1-3, Josh Mills 1-4.

##### Passing

CCHS: Summers 12-15-0, 214; Conner Poindexter 0-1-0. WCHS: Garrett 1-3-1, 10; Snyder 1-4-0, 30.

##### Receiving

CCHS: Belcher 4-84, Howard 1-78, Carder 1-33, Sosh 1-25, McLean 1-(-6).

##### Defense

CamRon Belcher 2 solos, 3 assists; Jantzen Fowler assist, fumble recovery; Blake French 2 solos, 4 assist; Seth Henry solo, assist; Brayden Mahnke 5 solos, 5 assists; Tyree McLean solo; Micael Porter 2 solos, 1 assist; Kaiden Travis 3 solos, 2 TFLs; Riley Barker solo; Braydin Brand-sasse solo, 3 assists; Jacob Carder 2 solos, 2 assists; Caden Howard 8 solos, 3 assists, 2 TFLs, fumble recovery; Colton McLean 3 solos, assist; Keegan Pierson assist; Brayden Poindexter 12 solos, 4 assists, 5 TFLs, caused fumble; Dakota Sosh solo, interception; Jay Stevenson assist; Trae Taylor 2 solos, TFL; Noah Byford 2 solos, 2 assists; Logan Nolan 2 solos, 2 assists; Davis Perryman 2 solos, 2 assists; Trent Todd 2 solos; Caden Blazina solos, TFL; Hunter Curnel assist; Eli Lovell 2 solos; Ethan Sosh assist; Dominic Walters solo.

##### Players of the Game

Offense Quinn Summers, Defense Brayden Poindexter, Special Teams CamRon Belcher and Lineman Carson Yates.

##### Records

CCHS 1-0, WCHS 0-1

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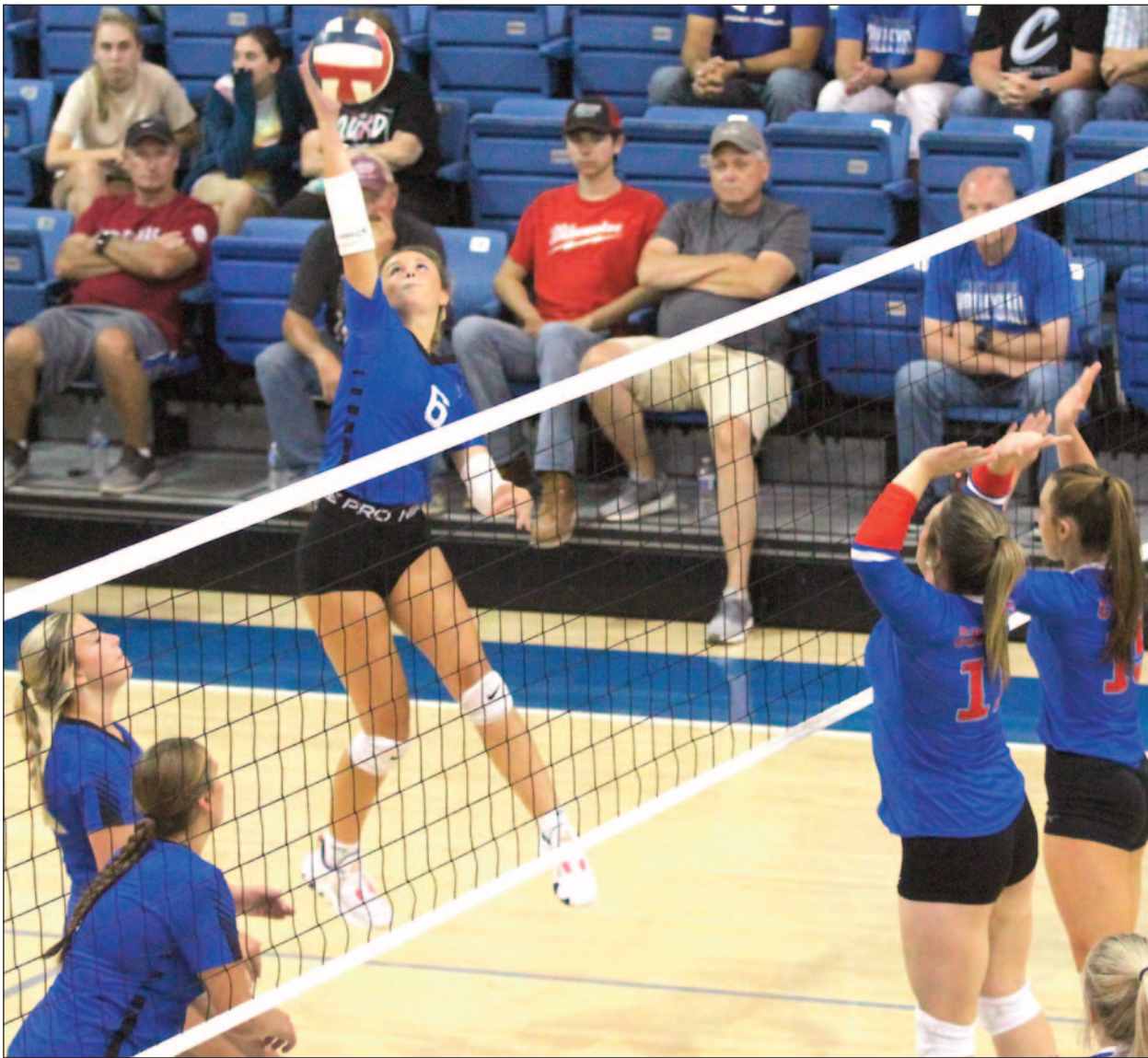
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Senior Hannah Mott (6) scores against Christian County during last week's Crittenden County victory. PHOTO BY ELLIOT EVANS



At top, senior Carly Porter returns a shot against Christian County, and directly above, coach Savannah Tays goes over strategy during a timeout. :PHOTOS BY ELLIOT EVANS

## CRITTENDEN COUNTY FALL SPORTS ROUNDUP

### CCHS VOLLEYBALL

In a battle at Henderson County to retain their pre-season No. 1 ranking, Crittenden County stumbled a bit, but continues to prove its worthiness despite a four-set loss to the Lady Colonels.

Henderson was ranked No. 5 in the pre-season coaches' poll, but has steadily gained respect by beating the region's best en route to a 5-3 record. Meanwhile, the loss was CCHS's first this season. The score was 20-25, 25-12, 18-25, 25-27 with the fourth set proving to be an epic battle between two teams playing near their best.

In the match, Carly Porter had a dozen kills and 2 blocks while Lilah Sherer posted 33 assists. Brooke Winstead had 11 kills and a block. Mary Stephens and Hannah Mott had 12 and 10 digs, respectively.

Crittenden won a four-set match at Madisonville last Thursday against another top-tier team. CCHS took the match 25-14, 25-15, 24-26, 25-15 behind a strong performance from a host of players. Winstead had 7 kills and Porter had 6. Each of them recorded one block. Sherer had 18 assists. Stephens had 8 digs while Mott and Riley Kirby had 4 apiece. Mott also served 10 aces and Porter had 3.

### CCHS BOYS & GIRLS GOLF

Cash Singleton fired a 48 to head the team of Rocket golfers last Thursday at Providence. Levi Quertermous shot 52, Bentley Rushing 54, Jaxton Duncan 57 and Jett Champion 57. Webster County beat the Rockets 167-211. For the CCHS girls, Georgia Holeman shot 47 and Abby Korzenborn 57.

In a match last week at Madisonville, Jett Champion led the way with a 51 followed by Jaxton Duncan 52, and 54s from Mitchell Brown, Levi Quertermous and Bentley Rushing. CCHS lost the match 211-185 against Hopkins Central.

The CCHS girls played at Henderson against Henderson County, Lyon County and Webster County. Georgia Holeman shot 54 and Abby Korzenborn 58. Lyon's Lilly Perry was third in the event with a 46.

### LADY ROCKET SOCCER

Crittenden County (1-4) lost for the second time in district play on Monday with an 8-2 setback on the road against Lyon County.

Ella Geary scored the Lady Rockets' only goals and

Adri Berry had one assist. In the goal, CCHS keeper Macibelle Hardesty had 7 saves.

Crittenden County lost 8-0 to University Heights in the semifinal round of the All A Classic last week at Fort Campbell. CCHS had received a first-round bye. Lady Rocket goalie Macibelle Hardesty had nine saves. UHA went on to win the All A regional championship, beating Caldwell County 5-0.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Crittenden County Middle School's softball girls improved to 5-4 on the season with an 8-1 road win Monday against Hopkins County.

Brodi Rich threw a complete game 2-hitter. At the plate, Abigail Champion and Brenna Kemmer had 2 hits apiece. Rich knocked in 2 runs with a triple. Mela Kate Penn had Crittenden's only other hit.

At home against Livingston County last Thursday, CCMS got behind early when Livingston scored twice in the top of the first inning on a lead off homer by Addison Tramble and an RBI triple by Amelia Ray. Yet the Lady Rockets tied the game in their half of the opening inning with four straight hits from Karlee Jent, Brenna Kemmer, Brodi Rich and Abigail Champion.

Livingston scored three more runs over the third and fourth innings to win the game 5-2. Livingston's Lilly Polk pitched the entire game allowing 5 hits and striking out 4. Rich threw for Crittenden, allowing 7 hits and striking out 6.

The middle school Lady Rockets toasted Dawson Springs 15-0 last week at Marion. Brodi Rich threw a one-hitter and CCMS girls had a dozen hits with Abigail Champion leading the way with 3. She also drove in 3 runs. Rich, Lilly Cappello and Sadie Green had 2 hits and 2 RBIs apiece.

### CCHS CROSS COUNTRY

Crittenden County junior Mary Martinez finished second in a 46-girl field at Saturday's season-opening cross country race at Hopkinsville. Martinez finished the 3.1-mile race in 21:35.7.

Crittenden's Ella Whitney was 17th at 27:01.0 and Presley Potter was 19th at 27:39.4.

In a field of 137 male runners, Crittenden County's Landon Starkey was 82nd at 24:05.8, Noah Martinez was 90th at 24:31.3 and Zach Rustin was 95th at 25:15.0.

## Water district hires consultant

# Plans to expand plant moving forward

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden-Livingston Water District (CLWD) agreed Monday night to enter into a contract with Clear View Consulting to help it negotiate a path toward doubling the size of its water plant at Pinckneyville and upgrading distribution lines.

Tom Thomas, the consultant who has helped Marion through the past two years of negotiating its water crisis, is owner of Clear View. Thomas has been involved in the early stages of planning and securing funding for CLWD's expansion project. Because of Thomas's dual role in securing water for Marion and aiding the two-county water district's multi-phase development to scale up its ability make more water, the district found value in having him officially on board.

Thomas has a great deal of experience in state government having been director of the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority and CLWD has seen the benefits of having him on its payroll. Thomas will continue to work with Marion, too. CLWD and Marion will share his services with each entity paying half of a \$4,500 monthly fee, the same rate Marion has been charged since the summer of 2022. The two-year contract will be reviewed every six month and

## CRITTENDEN LIVINGSTON WATER DISTRICT

either party can exit the contract with a 30-day notice. CLWD will be able to utilize grant funds to pay its share of the consulting services.

CLWD leaders said it's imperative to get its expansion project complete as soon as possible. Demands on its 2-million-gallons-a-day-plant are barely sustainable, and growth is necessary. The plant, it said, is operating at capacity now, and historically about 34 new customers are added each year. Expansion is necessary to meet future demands.

The plan to expand CLWD's operation is already underway with construction of a clear well to improve its capacity to store water among work in phase one. The second phase will include complete expansion of the plant.

Thomas told CLWD's board of directors that enough funding is available to complete phase one and there is enough pledged to do about about 30 or 40 percent of phase two. In a move to seek further funding, Thomas asked the board to approve an application to the Kentucky Water and Waste-water Assistance for Troubled or Economically Restrained Systems

(KY WWATERS) Program. He hopes grants and low-interest loans will be available. The board granted approval and the application is due later this week. Financing through the project is available at less than one percent interest.

A third phase of the project would include a larger water main between Salem and Marion to help serve its own customers in Crittenden County and the troubled Marion water system.

In other business, CLWD directors approved a plan to purchase new front-end software that will be capable of improving its billing service. It will take about a year before the new system will be in place. When operational, customers will find new options for online billing and be able to electronically monitor more details of their monthly usage at the district's website. The new bills will be different, enclosed in a standard size envelope, which should be more reliable in the mail. Abbie Adamson, who works in CLWD's front office, told directors that the traditional, postcard-style bills have been problematic at times, often getting lost in the mail.

## Due to inadequate player numbers CCMS cancels its football season

STAFF REPORT

With numbers too low to field a team, Crittenden County Middle School has canceled its fall football season. It will be the first time since the school was built in 1975 that a team will not take the field.

There are only 49 boys in the eighth grade and 44 in the seventh grade. To field a team, at least 18 or 20 players would be needed.

The team started practicing in July before

school started with fewer than a dozen. There were hopes that once school started those numbers would increase, but they have not.

Rocket football coach Gaige Courtney said options are being sought to schedule freshman games or modified junior varsity games that would allow middle schoolers to participate. Middle school players cannot be on the field during games when juniors or seniors are playing.

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Nestled in a tranquil rural area, this scenic hunting tract offers a diverse blend of habitat types and topography, making it a perfect retreat for outdoor enthusiasts. Features an ideal build site!

### REDUCED! Crittenden County, KY - 83 Acres - \$259,900

Nestled along the picturesque Piney Creek, this diverse hunting tract offers an idyllic setting for outdoor enthusiasts and wildlife aficionados alike.

### REDUCED! Livingston County, KY - 84 Acres - \$310,000

This impressive timbered hunting tract is situated in an area renowned for its quality deer and turkey hunting, making it a prime spot for outdoor enthusiasts. Includes build site potential.

PENDING! Crittenden County, KY - 17.3541 Acres - \$169,000  
Nestled within the embrace of tranquil countryside, this charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home offers the perfect retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. Includes a 32' x 48' metal barn.



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# Crittenden County Election Calendar

<b>15</b> SEPT	<b>16</b> SEPT	<b>17</b> SEPT	<b>18</b> SEPT	<b>19</b> SEPT	<b>20</b> SEPT	<b>21</b> SEPT
<b>22</b> SEPT	<b>23</b> SEPT	<b>24</b> SEPT	<b>25</b> SEPT	<b>26</b> SEPT	<b>27</b> SEPT	<b>28</b> SEPT
<b>29</b> SEPT	<b>30</b> SEPT	<b>1</b> OCT	<b>2</b> OCT	<b>3</b> OCT	<b>4</b> OCT	<b>5</b> OCT
<b>6</b> OCT	<b>7</b> OCT	<b>8</b> OCT	<b>9</b> OCT	<b>10</b> OCT	<b>11</b> OCT	<b>12</b> OCT
<b>13</b> OCT	<b>14</b> OCT	<b>15</b> OCT	<b>16</b> OCT	<b>17</b> OCT	<b>18</b> OCT	<b>19</b> OCT
<b>20</b> OCT	<b>21</b> OCT	<b>22</b> OCT	<b>23</b> OCT	<b>24</b> OCT	<b>25</b> OCT	<b>26</b> No Voting
<b>27</b> No Voting	<b>28</b> OCT	<b>29</b> OCT	<b>30</b> OCT	<b>31</b> OCT	<b>1</b> NOV	<b>2</b> NOV
<b>3</b> No Voting	<b>4</b> No Voting	<b>5</b> NOV	<b>6</b> NOV	<b>7</b> NOV	<b>8</b> NOV	<b>9</b> NOV

- 7** Voter registration deadline
- Yellow** Absentee mail-in ballot portal open: GoVote.ky.gov
- Green** In-person absentee: County Office Complex 8-4
- Blue** Early Voting: County Office Complex 8-4
- Red** Election Day: polls open 6-6

## Local gardsmen planning reunion

**STAFF REPORT**  
Guardsmen are planning a reunion at the former National Guard Armory in Marion on Saturday, Sept. 7.

Companies A and B that formerly used the armory for its headquarters typically host an annual get-together, but it's also open to all military and their families, according to Tony Harper, a retired sergeant with the former guard unit.

The pot luck lunch event begins at 10 a.m., and ends at 2 p.m. It will

include fellowship and recognition of former members who have passed away.

Harper said this will be the 11th year for the reunion, but the first at the armory in about five years. The U.S. Army closed Marion's armory in 2019. It was first opened in 1964, but the unit began in 1925.

## TAX

Continued from page 1 weeks and those paid by the end of October will earn a two-percent discount. Taxes are due by the end of the year.

County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said the budget committee had discussed county tax rates recently and had come to the conclusion that despite needing more revenue had decided to accept the compensating rate. That effectively lowers the rate, but for some taxpayers, there will be no financial relief because rates are applied to the value of property. For those whose property has increased in assessed value, there will be no appreciable change in what they pay.

"Asphalt price has gone from \$64 and some change per ton to \$97.50 a ton, and utilities are up significantly," Newcom said, pointing out that tax dollars generated this year will not go as far as they did last year. The judge said he realizes families are going through the same situation.

Additionally, the county set a tax rate of 12.4 cents for tangibles, inventory and watercraft.

Magistrates also gave final approval to a plan that creates a minimum tax bill. Anyone who owes less than \$10 will not get a bill or owe anything. It costs the county more than \$10 to process, print and mail a tax bill so it would lose money by sending them to those under that amount. The minimum last year was \$5. The county's minimum rate now reflects the state's recommended minimum.

PVA Todd Perryman said even a small lot with no home or buildings would generate a tax bill well beyond \$10. He said there are only a handful of bills that will fall below the minimum, explaining most or all will likely not be property owners. He explained that a very small amount of personal property could generate a tax bill that could fall below the minimum.

## Livingston school board sets 2024 tax rate with 4% hike

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

Livingston County Board of Education convened for a special called meeting on Aug. 15 since the regular monthly meeting scheduled for August was cancelled a few days earlier.

The school board set its tax rate for the 2024. The Board voted to adopt the rate of 44.7 cents for real estate and 45.5 for personal property which will increase local property tax revenue by an additional 4%, but would decrease the rate by 8 cents for real estate and keep personal property the same rate as last year. The tax rate is the 17th lowest in the state for real estate with 154 districts in Kentucky taxing their districts more.

Amy Ramage discussed Superintendent Dr. Meinschein being awarded the 2024 William T. Nallia Award from KASA recognizing individuals who have demonstrated visionary leadership and made significant contributions to public education in Kentucky. Food service in the district was also awarded as winners of the Action for Healthy Kids & USDA's Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Award.

Dr. Meinschein discussed other notable events prior to school which included the new employee orientation and opening day for teachers. The Livingston County Genealogical and Historical Society partnered with the district to give new employees a tour of

a portion of the county. And on opening day all staff and teachers were treated to lunch and challenged to reach to make what seems impossible possible for students. It was also reported that each school had successful back-to-school nights and a great first week of school. LCHS also opened the newly renovated Career and Technical Center to students for the first time. It is a huge asset to the district and will allow Livingston County Schools to provide a world class education to students.

It was also communicated to the board that LCHS Open Campus and New Beginnings Alternative Programming has been moved to the LCMS Campus in a separate building. There was a motion from the board to increase the food service managers rate of pay. The board also voted to increase adult meal prices to \$3.25 for breakfast and \$5 for lunch. The USDA requires that all meals sold to adults must be priced high enough to ensure no federal child nutrition funds are subsidizing adult meals.

The school board also approved the District Facility Plan (DFP). The DFP is a comprehensive review and evaluation of the school district's facilities that is prepared every 4 years. The DFP report will be reviewed in a public hearing then the final DFP is submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education for approval.

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<b>Tract 1</b>	2 Homes on <b>4.51 Acres</b>
<b>Tract 2</b>	<b>6.00 Acres</b>
<b>Tract 3</b>	42'x48' Stock/Equipment Barn and Pond on <b>15.1 Acres</b>
<b>Tract 4</b>	30'x60' Pole Barn with Horse Stalls on <b>8.00 Acres</b>
<b>Tract 5</b>	Shop House on <b>1.65 Acres</b>
<b>Tract 6</b>	<b>11.00 Acres</b>
<b>Tract 7</b>	28'x60' Hayshed & Pond on <b>16.35 Acres</b>
<b>Tract 8</b>	<b>10.37 Acres</b>

**Tract 1 Details - 202 Mt. Zion Church Rd:** Main House - Expansive 6,100+ square foot Amish-built home features 8 bedrooms, a full basement with 10" thick poured concrete walls, and hickory kitchen cabinets. The property is equipped with county water and has two water meters, with plumbing in place for a second bathroom. A partial wrap-around front porch adds charm to this 2-story residence, offering both character and room for customization. Guest House - 2,400 square foot home includes 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom, providing a comfortable living space. It also features a basement that doubles as a storm shelter, adding extra security and storage. This well-designed home offers practicality and peace of mind.

**Tract 5 Details - 294 Mt. Zion Church Rd:** This 3,840 square foot Shop House combines practicality with comfortable living, featuring 1,920 square feet of living quarters that include 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. An adjoining 1,920 square foot multipurpose room, equipped with a garage door, offers ample space for expansion or storage. The property provides a perfect blend of versatility and room for future growth.



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