



Crittenden County High School held its annual football awards ceremony Sunday. Among those recognized at the event were (front from left) Joel Bumpus, Turnover Award and Greg “Dozer” Belt Award; Jay Stevenson, Most Improved Defensive Player; Dakota Sosh, Solid Rocket Award; Brayden Poindexter, RBI Leader; Tackling Points Leader, Most Solo Tackles in a Season (102) plus other statistical honors, The Crittenden Press/Paul E. Mick Leadership Award, Rocket Captain and Most Valuable Defensive Player; Caden Howard, Career Receiving Yards Record (2,895) plus other statistical award, Rocket Captain and Most Valuable Player; Quinn Summers, various statistical awards plus Rocket Captain and Most Valuable Offensive Player; Trae Taylor, 110 Percent Award; Michael Counts, Roach Award; Braydin Brandsasse, Most Valuable Lineman Award; Keegan Pierson, Marion Feed Mill/Rocket Grit Iron Award; (back) Eli Lovell, Most Valuable Special Teams Player; Mitchell Brown, Most Improved Special Teams Player and various statistical awards; Gary Hall, Most Improved Offensive Player; Aiden Musser, JV Defensive MVP; Noah Byford, Solid Rocket Award; Davis Perryman, Most Improved Offensive Player; Logan Nolan, Selfless Rocket Award; Hunter Curnel, Marion Feed Mill/Rocket Grit Iron Award; Conner Poindexter, JV Captain. Not pictured: Hayden Hughes, JV Offensive MVP.



Chess Award
Crittenden County Elementary School third-grader Zander McFarland last weekend earned a second-place finish in the K-3 division at a McCracken County Schools chess tournament. It is McFarland’s first year competing with the school’s Blue Knight chess team.

Marion City Council hears updates on a variety of fronts

STAFF REPORT

Marion City Council addressed public works concerns, utility updates and long-term planning during its regular monthly meeting Monday.

During citizen comments, Ric Carder said several areas around town appear unkempt, citing candy and debris in streets, and suggested the city consider using inmate labor to help address cleanup issues. Mayor D’Anna Browning said she agreed with much of his concern.

Public Works Director Greg Tabor told the council the city’s street sweeper has been out of service for two to three years and that parts for the leaf vacuum remain unavailable and that’s why fall leaf collection did not begin as scheduled last month. He said renting a street sweeper is a short-term option.

Progress was reported on the city’s water meter replacement project. Engineer Allen Robinson of Eclipse Engineering said 1,431 meters have been installed, with 81 remaining. Installation slows near the end of the project partly because the remaining meters serve larger users, including plants and schools. Officials expect the system to be fully operational early next year, allowing meters to be read electronically from City Hall. Robinson said the technology is among the best currently available and that the meters and 10 years of subscriptions were funded entirely through grant money. The batteries have an estimated 10-year lifespan, and some city leaders expressed a desire to begin a long-term plan for their replacement because the devices will likely all begin to fail at the same time. Robinson said battery replacement costs would likely be lower



Marion’s contract engineer, Allen Robinson, unveiled a framed illustration depicting how the city’s new wastewater treatment plant operates.

than full meter replacement.

Robinson also reported that the city’s new wastewater treatment plant has been treating sewage for nearly a year and a half and is operating efficiently. Loan repayment figures have been calculated, and the facility is considered well run. Discussion followed regarding decommissioning the old wastewater plant on the east side of US 60 near the Marion City Limits, which Robinson explained would involve pumping out and disposing of any remaining contents and cleaning the basins. Robinson said the old plant is out of commission, but removing the old structures and reclaiming the area would be costly.

Robinson also updated the council on water line replacement projects on Country Drive, Poplar Street and West Depot Street, where aging galvanized lines have been replaced with new ones.

Council members approved the city’s annual audit and discussed plans to improve transparency by posting its independently conducted audits on the city’s website. An ordinance requiring future councils to publish annual audits is expected to be introduced in January.

Discussion also touched on the city’s sewer plant debt, which officials said is scheduled to be paid off in 2055. Once paid, the environmental fee could be removed from water and sewer bills. There is some anticipation of further increases in the fee, because the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, which enforces the rate, had given Marion a stay months ago because of its ongoing water crisis.

A resolution concerning a new water purchase agreement with the Crittenden-Livingston Water District was tabled until the January meeting. The previous contract, signed in 2022, has expired. The proposed agreement sets a rate of \$3.78 per 1,000 gallons for five years, up from the previous rate of \$3.34. City officials said they sought a guaranteed minimum daily volume but were unable to secure that provision. Council members discussed long-term planning and potential emergency scenarios before agreeing to postpone action.

Final readings were approved for ordinances regarding nuisances, penalties for ordinance violations and a pay plan for classified and non-elected officials.

Chief Red Howton said his department has purchased a newer fire truck from Marshall County. The city contributed \$100,000 toward the purchase, and the truck will be re-lettered, serviced and placed into operation very soon.

Officials provided a brief update on water supply conditions, noting the city uses approximately 300,000 gallons per day, with about 80,000 gallons coming from the Crittenden-Livingston Water District. Water Plant Supervisor Jeff Black said the city has roughly 78 days of water available in its lakes without rainfall, which means the city is in much better shape volume wise than it was in late summer and early

fall. Manganese levels are down, Black said, which should eliminated discoloration of water and sediment left in bowls.

Planning and zoning reports showed fewer complaints than usual. Officials said many of the issues identified involved junked vehicles or properties discovered during routine inspections rather than citizen complaints. City Administrator Adam Ledford said the city makes every effort to contact property owners and follows established legal procedures, including public notices, when enforcement action is required.

The Marion City Council will next meet on the fourth Monday in January.

ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION
Saturday, December 20th, 2025 @ 10:00 AM
FARM LOCATIONS: Princeton-Olney Road & Old Road Bed off Archie Ortt Rd • Princeton, KY 42445

657± ACRES
IN 4 FARMS
Selling the Highest Bidder REGARDLESS OF PRICE!

IMPORTANT AUCTION NOTE - Tracts 1-9 (Farm 1) will not be combined with Tracts 10-18 (Farm 2). These farms will be offered separately and may be purchased individually or in multi-tract combinations within their respective farm, but will not be grouped across the two farms.

This diverse property portfolio features **productive tillable farmland, wooded acreage, hunting land, and excellent building sites.** Buyers may bid on individual tracts, multiple tracts within each farm, or entire farms, creating an **opportunity** to acquire versatile land with long-term value in **Caldwell County—ideal for farming, investing, recreation, or building.**

FARM 1
189± Acres
75± Tillable
TRACTS 1-9

FARM 2
274.26± Acres
80± Tillable
TRACTS 10-18

FARM 3
81.79± Acres
20.2± Tillable
TRACTS 19-20

FARM 4
112.71± Acres
Cruise the Timber
TRACT 21

Pictured are Candy Yates from Crittenden County Nursing Home and Pam Todd, H&R Block Manager.

Locally owned H&R Block in Marion partnered with Candy Yates and the Crittenden County Nursing Home to sponsor a senior for Christmas.

H&R Block is proud to support local community events and looks forward to continuing to serve and give back to this wonderful community.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- High-quality tillable farmland
- Mixed hardwood timber and hunting potential
- Excellent deer & turkey habitat
- Scenic building sites throughout
- Cruise the timber
- Opportunity to expand farm operations, invest, or recreate

AUCTION LOCATION: CALDWELL COUNTY UK EXTENSION OFFICE
1025 US HIGHWAY 62 W, PRINCETON, KY 42445

REAL ESTATE TERMS: The auction shall be conducted in four distinct groups: **Tracts 1-9, Tracts 9-18, Tracts 19-20 & Tract 21.** No combinations between these four groups will be permitted. The property will be sold in the manner resulting in the highest total sale price. A 10% buyer's premium will be added to the final bid price & included in contract price. A 15% deposit is due day of auction, balance due in 30 days. The property is being sold on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis, and no warranty or representation, either express or implied, concerning the property is made by the Seller or Auction Company. Each potential bidder is responsible for conducting his or her own independent inspections investigations, inquiries, and due diligence concerning the property. Make Inspections Prior To Date Of Sale. **SURVEY:** The property will be sold by a new survey. Buyer responsible for 50% of the survey cost. **DEEDS:** Farms 1, 2, 3 sell by warranty deeds. Farm 4 sells by quit claim deed.

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