

Be careful out there because it is time for deer movement

Kentucky drivers face a 1 in 100 chance of an animal collision, according to State Farm's latest analysis of claims. The state ranked 16th nationally for risk in 2025–26, up from 20th the previous year.

State Farm estimated nearly 28,000 animal–collision claims in Kentucky and more than 1.6 million nationwide during the study period. West Virginia ranked first for risk.

Deer become more active in the fall. State Farm advises drivers to slow down and stay alert, especially from dusk to dawn. If an animal enters the road, drivers should brake rather than swerve.

Salem tax bills may have been lost in mail

City of Salem property tax bills were mailed Sept. 22. Some residents may not yet have received theirs, according to a social media post by Salem City Hall. If you have not received yours, call city hall at 270–988–2600 for bill information. You may also stop by city hall. A 2% discount is available for bills paid before Nov. 30.

Schools are stepping up big for local foods

Kentucky officials say 171 school districts have adopted a model purchasing policy aimed at putting more Kentucky–grown food on school menus, including Crittenden County.

The policy follows Senate Bill 5, sponsored by Sen. Jason Howell, R–Murray, whose district includes Crittenden County. The law removes certain state purchasing requirements for Kentucky–grown agricultural products bought by schools participating in federal child nutrition programs. Federal requirements remain in place.

During an Oct. 1 legislative meeting, Kentucky Department of Agriculture officials outlined efforts to connect schools with farmers, coordinate purchases with seasonal crops and arrange buying commitments before planting.

Officials are also developing a group–purchasing option for Kentucky–grown foods, with bid language expected by mid–November.

Challenges include shortages of cold storage, meat–processing capacity and refrigerated delivery, along with limited equipment and staff time in school kitchens. Howell said advance purchasing commitments



could help farmers secure financing and expand production.

New county attorney slips in marathon run

Newly installed Crittenden County Attorney Chad Nelson ran a personal–best time of 3 hours, 56 minutes in Sunday's Portland Marathon in Oregon, shaving about 45 minutes off his previous best.

The 26.2–mile race was Nelson's third marathon. He previously ran the Mississippi Blues Marathon in Jackson, Miss., and a marathon in Columbus, Ohio, last year.

Nelson said he learned to hate running during his military service but now embraces the challenge and takes it seriously. After a quick trip to Oregon, he was back in the office Tuesday morning.

Nelson, was formally installed last week as county attorney to complete an unexpired term of Bart Frazer, who retired effective Sept. 30. Nelson, who won the GOP primary last spring, will begin a full four–year term as county attorney starting in January.

Water line flushing is continuing this week

The city of Marion will continue flushing water lines nightly through Friday, Oct. 9, as part of routine maintenance. Flushing, which began earlier this week, will take place from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Customers may experience discolored water or low water pressure at times.

Marion receiving help from FEMA for storm damage last spring

Marion will receive \$113,893.44 in Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster funding to reimburse repairs following severe weather in April and May 2025.

Mayor D'Anna Browning said the award is expected to be used to repay the city for expenditures during responses to weather events and perhaps to improve infrastructure going forward.

The grant will cover repair or replacement of culverts and related components, according to Gov. Andy Beshear's office, which announced the funding

Wednesday, Sept. 30.

Marion's award is part of more than \$21.9 million in FEMA funds secured for disaster–related expenses across Kentucky.

Students are helping name street sweeper

Marion Mayor D'Anna Browning has invited Crittenden County Elementary School students to draw and name the city's new street sweeper, which arrived last week. The \$265,000 machine will also collect leaves and include a water jetter to clear clogged pipes. Browning asked students to be imaginative and give it a name. The winning name will become the vehicle's official moniker, and students' artwork will be displayed at City Hall.

Livingston court is considering road closures near quarry

Livingston County Fiscal Court has begun the process of considering the closure of several county roads near Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel at Pinckneyville as the company plans an expansion of its mining operation.

The roads under consideration include Cook Springs Road, Spencer Road and a portion of Maddox Loop, Judge–Executive Michael Williams said following the court's Sept. 22 meeting.

Williams emphasized that no final decision has been made. The process will include public notice, hearings and discussions with residents who could be affected by the closures.

In other business from last month's court meeting, magistrates approved \$483,715 in monthly bills, including payroll and purchases.

The court also approved an agreement with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for an 80–20 reimbursement program for culvert work. Livingston County has identified about 40 deteriorated culverts on county roads.

The county expects to spend at least \$100,000 on the projects and could receive up to \$80,000 in state reimbursement. It will have up to three years to complete the work.

The county has also received state approval to establish a free residential brush disposal site at the Livingston County Transfer Station on the Cut Off Road. Residents will be able to drop off brush during regular operating hours once the site is ready. Commercial tree–trimming companies will not be permitted to use the service.

The county plans to periodically burn accumulated brush under an air–quality permit.



Throwback Thursday: Apple pie bragging rights were on the line during Farmers Day in Marion. Glenda Chandler, (left) and Nancy Lanham, (right) were among the top finishers, with Darl Henley of the Homemakers Extension Club presenting the prizes. Lanham took first place and Chandler finished third. Jeannie Marshall, not pictured, was second.

50 YEARS AGO

October 7, 1976

■ Kwik Pik Markets, Inc., of Madisonville announced plans to construct a 2,400–square–foot store in Marion, with preliminary site work beginning this week 50 years ago. The store was located on the corner of South Main and Gum streets.

■ Five lovely young ladies were in the homecoming court on Friday night prior to the CCHS–Reidland football game. Nominees were Linda Hill and Sandra Boone, both seniors; Sabrina Brantley, sophomore; Debbie York, junior; and Anita Collier, freshman.

■ Representing Crittenden County at the annual meeting of the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts held Sept. 27–28 were Mr. and Mrs. James L. Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Herrin and Mr. and Mrs. William M. Todd. Gregory, Herrin and Todd were recognized and given certificates of service as supervisors of the Crittenden County Conservation District. Their length of service was 20 years for Gregory and 15 years each for Herrin and Todd. The convention was held at Lake Barkley State Resort Park near Cadiz.

10 YEARS AGO

October 4, 2001

■ First cousins Mable Clark and Kate Mitchell celebrated their 100th birthdays. They were born in the Glendale community in Crittenden County and delivered by their grandmother, Lou Clark – the only problem being that no one knew who was born first and is technically the oldest! Both were the oldest members of Marion United Methodist Church, where Clark taught Sunday school and Mitchell sang in the choir.

■ Seven members from the Crittenden County FFA chapter traveled to Murray to attend MSU Racer Round–Up. Members had the opportunity to attend sessions with the theme “Get Plugged In.” The sessions dealt with membership, teamwork, leadership and alumni members. Students also had the chance to play FFA Jeopardy and talk with over 400 other members from across the states of Kentucky, Missouri and Ohio. Local members in attendance were Jenna Haugen, Sallie Wright, James Riley, Nicole Sexton, Robert Holloman, Jeremy Binkley and David Hearell.

■ Master Trooper Darron Holliman of Kentucky State Police Post 2 was named a top member of the agency's Crisis Intervention Team. The Marion native and Crittenden County resident was recognized with a multi–county regional award for his work helping people experiencing a mental health crisis.

■ Crittenden County Junior Pro football took two games from Trigg County at Rocket Stadium. The third– and fourth–grade team beat Trigg 27–0, and the fifth– and sixth–grade Rockets beat Trigg 34–7. Rocket running back Tyree McLean scored twice, and Kaiden Travis and Caden Howard each scored touchdowns in the first– and fourth–grade game. Quinn Summers had two sacks and eight tackles to lead the defense. Howard also scored three conversion runs for Crittenden, which is now 3–1. Rocket running backs Preston Morgeson and Sam Impastato scored all of Crittenden's touchdowns in the older group's game. The fifth– and sixth–graders also won three of four games that season.

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

Crittenden County Public Library

Crittenden County Public Library's newest selections include Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear's Go and Do Likewise: How We Heal a Broken Country, which discusses faith, public service and political division.

Also, available is John Grisham's The French Illusion, which follows newlyweds Paul and Chelsea Tanner, whose Paris honeymoon turns into a nightmare when they are kidnapped during an excursion into the French countryside. As questions emerge about who targeted the couple and why, investigators discover their abduction may be connected to similar crimes.

Patterson and David Ellis explore a historical mystery in The Munich Affair. The novel begins with the 1931 death of Adolf Hitler's niece and lover, Geli Raubal, and follows a detective and journalist whose pursuit of the truth places their families in danger. A present–day professor later encounters neo–Nazis determined to protect long–held secrets.

Patterson also teams with Mike Lupica for The Country Road Murders, about a gifted two–sport athlete whose future is derailed by a deadly accident. Meanwhile, Double Tap by Vince Flynn and Don Bentley sends a young Mitch Rapp on his first deep–cover assignment inside a terrorist organization planning to unleash a weapon of mass destruction.

Crime readers also may choose Fury in Death, the latest Eve Dallas thriller by J.D. Robb. The investigation begins after a wealthy biotechnology executive is found beaten to death in his home office.

Among the new fantasy selections is Leigh Bardugo's Dead Beat, the conclusion to the Ninth House trilogy. Alex Stern returns from hell but leaves a passage open, allowing demons to enter New Haven and the Yale campus. Geneva Lee's Harbinger offers epic fantasy, political intrigue and romance, while J.R. Ward continues her Black Dagger Brotherhood series with Lover Enthroned.



Historical fiction fans may enjoy Kate Atkinson's Our Noble Selves, set in post–World War II London. The story follows former war correspondent Harry Flynn as he joins the group preparing the Festival of Britain and discovers some of his co–workers may have hidden agendas.

Downloadable audiobooks include Laura Purcell's Gothic mystery The Silent Companions, about a pregnant young widow who discovers a disturbing wooden figure inside her late husband's secluded estate.

Letters POLICY

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The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260

125 E. Bellville St. | P.O. Box 191 | Marion, KY 42064 | 270.965.3191 | www.the-press.com thepress@the-press.com

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The Crittenden Press (USPS 138–260) is published weekly by The Crittenden Press Inc., P.O. Box 191, 125 E. Bellville St., Marion, KY 42064. Periodicals postage paid at Marion, KY and at additional mailing offices. Subscriptions \$45 to \$86 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Crittenden Press, P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064. Online subscriptions start at \$32 a year. The Crittenden Press provides media coverage for Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and Lyon counties in Kentucky, and Cave–In–Rock, Ill., and Elizabethtown, Ill.

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