Whittington receives LiveRED honor during board's meeting

LIVINGSTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

Livingston County Board of Education voted Oct. 12 to return a previously surplused pickup to the district's fleet after another maintenance truck broke down beyond repair.

Superintendent Amy Ramage said the district received no bids on the 2022 Chevrolet Silverado four-wheel-drive crew cab. Board member Tony Sanders moved to return the truck to the fleet for technology and maintenance use, with Tammy Sayle seconding. The motion passed.

The board also approved an agreement with Regional Employment Solutions to provide pre-employment services for students with special needs beginning in eighth grade, along with the district's 2026-27 trauma-informed care plan.

An agreement with the Four Rivers Foundation was also approved. Since joining the foundation, Livingston County students have received approximately $40,000 in dual-credit tuition assistance. The partnership also provides books annually to all elementary students through the Rudolph Readers program.

During recognitions, Livingston Central High School senior Lily Whittington received the LiveRED Student award. She will serve as the board's student representative, providing a student perspective on district decisions. Whittington hopes to attend the University of Kentucky next fall to study radiology and participates in the district's Living History initiative at Fort Smith.

Ashley Rupcke received the LiveRED Staff award for her service to students, families and staff. She began working for Livingston County Schools as a student worker in 1999 and has served as secretary to the superintendent, human resources assistant, benefits support and a bus monitor when needed.

"Ashley's ability to remember absolutely everything is invaluable to Livingston County Schools and the relationships that help our district grow," Ramage said.

The board presented the Community Partner award to Lighthouse Landing and Wake Club for their support of the Kentucky School Boards Association regional meeting hosted by the district in August. Wake Club Executive Chef Kevin Reagan accepted the award on the organization's behalf.

Board Vice Chair Terry Watson presided over the meeting. The board's next meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m. Nov. 9 at the board office.

Indictments returned against eight individuals during October session

LIVINGSTON COUNTY GRAND JURY

STAFF REPORT

Livingston County grand jury returned eight indictments Oct. 13.

The indictments are as follows. An indictment is a formal accusation in a felony case and does not establish guilt.

•John K. Dukes was indicted on a charge of receiving stolen property involving a firearm. The case was submitted directly to the grand jury.

•Michael Gipson was indicted on charges of speeding, first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and possession of drug paraphernalia.

•Tara N. Ford was indicted on charges of driving on a DUI-suspended license; failure to signal; second-offense DUI; first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine); and possession of drug paraphernalia.

•Kendal Boyd was indicted on charges of first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), third-degree terroristic threatening and two counts of second-degree possession of a controlled substance, involving amphetamine and Suboxone.

•Aiden Dawson Shirkrsin received a misdemeanor indictment for first-degree criminal trespassing and third-degree fleeing or evading police. The grand jury amended the original second-degree burglary charge to criminal trespassing and returned the case to district court.

•Corbin E. Chambers and Corey L. Garrow were indicted in a case submitted directly to the grand jury. Chambers was indicted on charges of first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance involving more than 2 grams of methamphetamine, first offense; possession of drug paraphernalia; and possession of marijuana. Garrow was indicted on a charge of first-degree possession of a controlled substance (hydrocodone).

•John Edward Lutz was indicted on charges of first-degree strangulation, fourth-degree assault, three counts of distribution of matter portraying a sexual performance by a minor under age 12, one count of harassing communications and being a first-degree persistent felony offender. The grand jury declined to indict on 28 additional counts of harassing communications.

INDICT

Continued from page 1

paraphernalia; and failure to wear a seat belt.

•Amy Louise Jones, 44, of Morganfield was indicted on first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance involving more than 2 grams of methamphetamine, first offense; possession of drug paraphernalia; and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, first offense.

•Rickey Loomis, 41, of Marion was indicted on first-degree wanton endangerment; two counts of possession of a handgun by a convicted felon; enhanced possession of marijuana; enhanced first-degree possession of a controlled substance involving methamphetamine, first offense; possession of drug paraphernalia; illegal possession of a legend drug; possession of a controlled substance prescription outside its original container; resisting arrest; and first-degree unlawful transaction with a minor.

•Angela Renee Maples, 52, of Marion was indicted on possession of marijuana; first-degree possession of a controlled substance involving methamphetamine, second offense; possession of drug paraphernalia; third-degree possession of a controlled substance, with the drug unspecified; and possession of a controlled substance prescription outside its original container.

•Michael David Reynolds, 39, of Marion was indicted on theft by deception involving more than $10,000 and wanton abuse or neglect of an adult.

•Michelle M. Reynolds, 39, of Marion was indicted on theft by deception involving more than $10,000 and wanton abuse or neglect of an adult.

•Jeremy Matthew Tabor, 45, of Marion was indicted on first-degree fleeing or evading police in a motor vehicle; first-degree wanton endangerment involving a police officer; third-degree fleeing or evading police; operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance, first offense with aggravating circumstances; first-degree possession of a controlled substance involving methamphetamine, first offense; first-degree criminal mischief; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; reckless driving; speeding, three counts of failure to signal or improper signaling; abandonment of a vehicle on a public road; possession of an open alcoholic beverage container in a motor vehicle; and failure to produce an insurance card.

ELECTION

Continued from page 1

LaRue in the 2nd Educational District and Ryan McDaniel in the 5th Educational District. Kerianne Vasquez is a write-in candidate in District 2.



Also locally, Bob Glinke and John Croft are each on the ballot for Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors. Susan Smith is a write-in candidate.

Ben Leonard is the only printed candidate for district judge in the 5th Judicial District, which includes Crittenden, Webster and Union counties.

Voters also will consider Constitutional Amendment 1, which would restrict a governor's authority to grant pardons or commute sentences during the 60 days before a gubernatorial election through the inauguration.

The U.S. Senate race to replace longtime Sen. Mitch McConnell, who is not seeking another term, includes Republican Andy Barr, Democrat Charles Booker and Kentucky Party candidate Christopher Campbell.

Republican incumbent James R. Comer faces Democratic challenger John "Drew" Williams for the 1st Congressional District seat. Republican state Rep. Jim Gooch Jr. is the only candidate on the ballot for the 12th District seat, which includes Crittenden, McLean, Union and Webster counties.

Crittenden County Detention Center



DETENTION CENTER REPORT

OCTOBER 15, 2026

The Crittenden County Detention Center report is provided monthly to magistrates during Crittenden County Fiscal Court meetings. The inmate count is an average for last month.

- *Federal Inmates $57 Per diem*
- *State Inmates $35.34 Per diem*
- *Lyon County Inmates $36.00*
- *Other County Inmates $40.00*

LAST MONTH CASH FLOW

Total Receipts $309,742.91
Disbursements $274,149.67

JAIL CENSUS	Sept. 2026 Avg	Aug. 2026 Avg	Montly Avg 2025
State Inmates	48	52.9	75.81
Federal Inmates	65	66.7	58.12
Other County Inmates	16	16.9	24.95
Critenden County Inmates	0	10	17.96
TOTAL INMATES	3	146.5	176.84
Highest Daily Count	1	159	187.50
Lowest Daily Count	12	144	170.7
	145		

Last Month REVENUE		Aug. 2026 Avg	Montly Average 2025
State Housing Payments	$52,232.52	$57,992.94	$81,465.77
Federal Housing Payments	$117,249.00	$117,933.00	$100,553.70
Federal Transport Payments	$13,993.16	$8,169.56	$9,689.27
Lyon Co. Housing Payments	$15,984.00	$17,460.00	$24,840.00
Other County Housing Payments	$160.00	$1,000.00	$1,980.00
Weekend/Work Release	$800.00	$560.00	$712.00
TOTAL HOUSING	$200,418.68	$203,115.50	$219,243.57

Last Month ANALYSIS			
Cost of Crittenden Inmates	$14,240.00	$12,400.00	$21,948.00
Numbers of Co. Housing Days	356	310	548.7
County Daily Housing Rate	$40.00	$40.00	$40
Avg Daily Population Co. Inmates	11.86	10	17.916

COUNTY

Continued from page 1

to rise while funding remains flat or declines, Newcom said, urging magistrates to consider that pressure when weighing purchases.

Magistrate Scott Belt favored seeking bids to determine affordability. Magistrate Robert Kirby questioned whether a 100-horsepower tractor was necessary.

Maraman said a smaller tractor would slow mowing in thick, tall roadside vegetation. The tractor would also be used to grade gravel roads and clear snow.

Newcom suggested researching lower-horsepower models and possible equipment trade-ins. The court agreed to explore options before seeking bids, noting it has the winter to make a decision.

In his road report, Maraman said cold-mix patching is nearly finished for the season. The excavator, truck and labor crew finished work on Phin Croft Road and is moving to Copperas Springs Road to prepare it for paving.

After several smaller jobs, the crew is scheduled to begin similar paving preparation on Fish Trap Road around Oct. 26. That work will affect traffic.

Jail Report

Jailer Robbie Kirk outlined equipment concerns and efforts to bring federal inmates to the Crittenden County Detention Center during his first report since taking over the jail Oct. 1 following the resignation of Athena Hayes.

Kirk said kitchen ovens were not working and jail vehicles needed maintenance, with some unable to start or run. He also noted high mileage on inmate transport vehicles.

Kirk said U.S. marshals in Missouri could begin placing federal inmates at the jail as early as next week. He has also resumed communication with Tennessee officials about housing inmates.

An unannounced Department of Corrections inspection Wednesday went well, Kirk reported. He also requested that a 2008 van and a couch be declared surplus.

Addressing jail finances, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said the county expects about $52,000 soon, with federal inmate housing and transportation revenue also anticipated.

Newcom said some bills would be delayed until adequate funding arrives, noting bond payments and payroll due this week. He recommended continuing to allow his office to pay jail bills as funds become available, as it has for the past several months.

The cash flow for the jail for last month was reported at $309,742.91 in receipts and $274,149.67 in disbursements.



Your vote for Perry Newcom, Judge Executive, will allow me the opportunity to continue providing leadership that will make a difference for our entire community:

- Long-term investments to meet your needs now and for the future generations to come:
- A new water plant to ensure water security resulting in growth opportunities and better health. A 90 plus million-dollar project for which is over 66% funded by grants and forgivable loans while work continues to secure more grants and forgivable loans ensuring the continuation of lower utilities costs for you.
- A new county office complex, costing local citizens 1/5 of what it would have cost us to be in the new Judicial Building, resulting in savings to the county of more than $3 million.
- A new Judicial Building to replace the antiquated and deteriorating courthouse, resulting in safer courtroom experience and a more efficient and accessible building for all.
- Providing support and easing red tape restrictions which have resulted in countywide low cost, high speed, and reliable internet accessibility options.
- Grants for safety improvements to our park playgrounds, resulting in safer equipment and grounds to protect your families.
- Grants providing facilities in which we have indoor practice space for our school athletic programs, indoor youth and adult archery, indoor pickleball courts, county attorney office space, child support office space, and adult education space; a program we nearly lost had it not been for providing this space to meet the GED needs of our community.
- Grants and donated funds resulting in the construction of two new food bank buildings for the purpose of ensuring food security for those most in need within our community.
- Maintained a community services presence for the purpose of providing clothing, furnishings, and other items to those in our community needing such items. Another program that was scheduled to be discontinued due to a lack of federal and state funding support, yet through the creation of a local group of dedicated volunteers and a space provided by the county, we continue the ability to help those in need within our community.
- Grants to achieve a transient boat dock at Riverview Park, enhancing the safety and convenience to those who utilize the ramp for hunting, boating, and fishing.
- Awarded over 120 million dollars in state funding during my tenure. Funding which I advocated to receive for roads, bridges, and other infrastructure improvements.
- Instrumental in providing local assistance and support for the new affordable housing project, Cold Springs, which led to new housing availability for our community members in need of adequate and affordable housing.
- Eliminated over $6 million in debt to the county hospital while ensuring we maintained a quality and locally operated hospital to serve our community's health care needs.
- Developed and implemented a plan to ensure our county has access to a 24-hour a day, 365 day per year emergency ambulance service available to serve you and your family.
- Have worked with numerous individuals in partnership with the state, which has led to new or expanded businesses serving our community and employing people near and far.
- Renovations to our Senior Center, supporting programs and activities for our super seniors.

LET'S KEEP THESE SUCCESSES COMING!
I RESPECTFULLY ASK YOU TO

VOTE
PERRY NEWCOM
Crittenden County Judge Executive

THE ONLY NAME YOU'LL SEE ON THE BALLOT

Paid for by the campaign to Elect Perry Newcom, Perry Newcom Treasurer