



The Crittenden Press

Beverly Herrin enshrined posthumously | Page 10

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

AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

TWO DOLLARS



FAIR SCHEDULE

Final week of events

Crittenden County's annual Lions Club Fair will wrap things up this weekend starting with the 4-H breakfast and Ag Hall of Fame induction Friday morning, the poultry show later that day and Family Night Friday evening. The demolition derby and car show will be Saturday. See details on page 10 of this edition.

Food for the table has gone up 33% since 2019

Americans are changing the way they shop as grocery prices continue to squeeze household budgets. The cost of food eaten at home has risen 33% since the beginning of 2019, the largest increase in a half-century, according to government figures reported by The Associated Press.

Shoppers are increasingly using coupons, comparing prices, switching to store brands and cutting back on meat and nonessential items. Ground beef reached an average of \$6.82 per pound in June - 79% higher than at the beginning of 2019.

With conflict in the Middle East adding more price pressure, food affordability is emerging as a key issue ahead of this fall's midterm elections.

Special court meetings

Crittenden County Fiscal Court will hold a special-called meeting at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 30 at the County Office Complex for the primary purpose of awarding a contract for the Mexico Road bridge replacement project. As part of the same meeting, the court will hold a public hearing to receive public comments regarding a proposed ordinance, which would establish an electrical inspection fee schedule. Crittenden County Fiscal Court will hold a special-called meeting at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5 for the primary purpose of awarding a contract for the Nunn Switch Road bridge replacement project.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet in special session at 4 p.m., Thursday, July 30 at the county office complex.
- Community Prayer will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, at The Crittenden Press empty lot. Residents are encouraged to attend.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet in special session at 4 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 5 at the county office complex.
- Crittenden County Board of Education will meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026, for a working session at Rocket Arena.
- Marion Code Enforcement Board will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 10, at city hall.

Correction

A story in last week's Press about 10 Under 40 honoree Seth Lewis incorrectly identified the late Tommy Chandler. While doing electrical work at the Lewis' home, Chandler sparked an interest in Lewis, who began shadowing him and spurred his current career as an electrician.



Without an alternative maintenance plan in place, Marion's disc golf course and Goose Pond have been a bit woolly this summer.

City will maintain course & pond this season

Maintenance responsibility probed

STAFF REPORT

The City of Marion will use maintenance employees to mow and maintain about 30 acres surrounding Goose Pond and part of the disc golf course while officials search for a long-term maintenance solution.

The property includes common areas around the lake and nine holes of the 18-hole disc golf course. The other nine holes are located on the east side of the walking trail inside Marion-Crittenden County Park and have been maintained this summer by the jail's mowing crew.

Crittenden County Detention Center's work-release crew previously mowed the disc golf course

MARION

CITY COUNCIL

also known as the Victory Garden property, but has stopped due to staffing and other matters, city officials said.

Without the inmate crew, Marion-Crittenden County Park Board stepped in and temporarily closed half of the disc golf course a few weeks ago until arrangements could be made to cut the grass, which had gotten to be about waist high. Although the property is not inside the park's boundaries or within the board's responsibility, officials believed neglect of the neighboring property was a reflection on the park because it included part of

the disc golf course. Therefore, park officials hired private contractors to cut and bale the tall grass and mow the course and common areas, including around the pond bank were residents frequently fish.

The City of Marion and Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission paid for the work, spending more than \$2,200 improving the grounds over a two-week period earlier this month. Such costs appear to be untenable for the remainder of the summer, based on conversations during

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City review will begin on e-bike regs

STAFF REPORT

Marion's decades-old ordinance governing motorized bicycles may soon be updated to address modern e-bikes more specifically following questions about how the existing law should be interpreted and enforced.

Police Chief Bobby West, who is relying on language regulating "power-driven bicycles," has been advising that riders must have a valid operator's license to use e-bikes on city streets. During a Marion City Council meeting, however, West acknowledged that the ordinance needs clearer definitions to distinguish today's e-bikes from electric dirt bikes, scooters, mopeds and other powered vehicles.

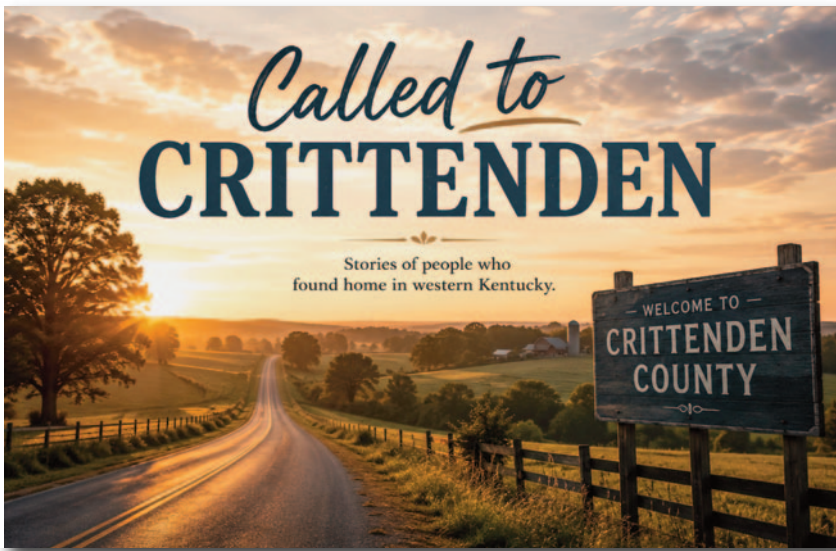
West said the city has received an influx of complaints about the vehicles being operated on streets and highways by riders ranging from children as young as 8 to adults. Complaints have included riders disregarding traffic, failing to obey signs and weaving through streets and parking lots.

The chief said he has tried to explain the existing ordinance to residents, but questions about terms such as "power-driven bicycle" have exposed areas that need clarification.

"This continues to be an issue," West said, adding that his primary responsibility is protecting young riders and others traveling on Marion's streets and highways.

Councilman Dwight Sherer described two recent incidents involving children who appeared to be about 10 or 11 years old riding vehicles that looked like mopeds. In one instance, the riders pulled into traffic in front of his vehicle

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Tracing people movements toward Marion

As many of you know, I grew up in Marion. Then, in 1953, I moved away. I returned in 1967 but left again in 1970, moving to Cincinnati, Ohio, where I lived for the next 53 years. I moved back to Marion in 2023.

Since moving back to Marion, I've met a number of people who have relocated here from other cities or states. That intrigued me. I wondered what had drawn them to Marion. In fact, how did they even find this small town?

Although it is a beautiful area with friendly people living here, we are not a mecca of anything. Our biggest claim to fame would be our proximity to the Kentucky and Barkley lakes recre-



Jenny ZIMMER
Point of View

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Journey from Jersey to Marion

BY JENNY ZIMMER
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

Tracy Sutton's parents came to Marion to visit a former co-worker but found they really liked the town and decided to move here. That was in 2004. They acquired a house on West Elm and settled in.

Sutton moved from New Jersey to Marion in anticipation of her parents getting older; she felt she should be close in case either of them needed help; she also wanted to make certain that neither of them would be left alone in case something happened to the other.

Sutton's son moved here along with her and still lives in Marion. Her 19-year-old grandson now lives in Princeton, and an almost 18-year-old granddaughter lives in Morganfield but will be moving to Missouri after she gets married.

Sutton's daughter Brennan presented her with an-

other grandchild in January 2026 when her son Colter was born. She lives in Henderson.

Sutton began a job search before she moved here. She posted her resume online and got immediate responses. A quick interview and a job offer resulted in her starting work within a week of being here. She has changed jobs a couple of times and now works at the nursing home in Marion. She likes her job and the people she works with. She has made new friends and leads a busy life. In addition to her regular job, she is also active in St. William Catholic Church and helps with their accounting needs.

Sutton's mother died in 2022 and her dad, George, passed away recently.

When describing what she likes best about this area, Sutton quickly points out that she is fascinated by the fact that everybody

knows everybody. She can go to Paducah and run into someone she knows. That doesn't happen often in large cities.

Her biggest surprise about the area was to see a person walking around carrying a gun or seeing someone with a gun strapped visibly at their waist.

"That is not something you would see in New Jersey," she said.

She has adjusted to small-town living over the time she has been here. Her favorite thing about the people here is that they are nice, friendly and welcoming for the most part.

For entertainment Sutton enjoys get-togethers or cooking out with friends.

She likes to visit the Mineral Museum and frequently takes guests there. She has recently joined a group that plays Mahjong

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Tracy Sutton

The Crittenden Press

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