

Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

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Kathy and John Price and Kyle Coffey, (in front) are shown waving to the crowd from the Wynn Family Float at Tuesday night's Christmas Parade in Mt. Vernon. The Wynn family builds a Christmas float each year, which they display at each of the county's three parades.



Santa Claus, aka, Mike Bryant, arrived in Mt. Vernon during Tuesday night's Christmas Parade on a Mule drawn wagon, driven by David Thompson. Elf Pam Burdette waits to help Old Saint Nick down from the wagon so he could visit with the many children in attendance at Monday night's parade.



Rockcastle Ambulance Service EMTs Dennis Stewart and Dana Carter are shown passing out some of the many stuffed animals given to children during Tuesday night's Christmas Parade in Mt. Vernon. The animals were gathered through a collective effort of employees at the Rockcastle Ambulance Service, Rockcastle Hospital and some local stores, as well as many local individuals. (See numerous other photos from parades in our Christmas issue).



Members of Rockcastle County High School JROTC Color Guard participated in the Christmas Parade in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday night. Shown above, from left are: Ben Whitaker, Samantha Bussell, Joseph Doan and Cullan White. The JROTC also had a float in the parade. That photo, along with numerous others from the parade, will appear in the *Signal's* Christmas edition later this month.

Court votes to condemn land needed for Industrial Park

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court voted Tuesday, in a special called meeting, to begin condemnation proceedings to acquire the last parcel of land needed to complete an approximate 20 acre add-on to Rockcastle Business Park South.

The area is located on Old 461 and Hwy. 150 and belongs to Barbara Baker, who lives in Northern Kentucky.

The 1.62 acre site fronts Old 461 and was appraised at \$97,800. However, Mrs. Baker's asking price is \$300,000 for the land, which includes two trailers and a storage building.

Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Buzz Carloftis told the court that Mrs. Baker's property was the last to be acquired in the area where a new access road to the industrial park will be built, from Hwy. 150.

Carloftis said that the seven other landowners in the area, including Payne's Auto Sales, had accepted the appraisal of their land. The total cost for the 20 acres is around \$900,000, Carloftis said Wednesday. The court plans to close Common Loon Road and build another road into the park off Hwy. 150.

Carloftis said he had contacted Mrs. Baker recently, by phone, in an attempt to resolve the issue. However, he said Mrs. Baker informed him that she was "not giving away" her property and closed the conversation by saying that she would get a lawyer.

The Judge's recommendation to the court was for them to authorize condemnation proceedings but his recommendation was met with some resistance by Magistrates Bill McKinney and William Denny.

Both men said they were hesitant to condemn the property since Baker's property was not actually needed to build the access road. However, Jim Holton, consultant for Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority, pointed out to the court that not having the property could compromise the value of the rest of the development and, with no zoning laws in the county, Mrs. Baker could do whatever she chose with the property. Holton also told the court that without Baker's property, a large section of the 20 acres could not be developed.

Holton said that in looking at the big picture for future development, he felt that prospective investors might look at two rental trailers and possibly overgrown property and be hesitant to invest millions of dollars in a manufacturing operation here.

Rockcastle County Attorney Billy Reynolds also expressed some doubt in the proceeding, telling the court that the condemnation would not be "a slam dunk" in his opinion, mainly because the property was not essential to the new access road. However, he said that there was precedence for the action but that he thought it would be best for the court to have a unanimous vote on the issue.

Magistrate John Holbrook made the motion to begin the condemnation proceedings and Magistrate Jan Stevens seconded it. Magistrate Ralph Allen voted yes but Magistrate William Denny voted no. However, after Reynolds' suggestion, both he and McKinney voted yes on the matter.

Reynolds will now file suit in Circuit Court. Should Mrs. Baker fail to respond within 20 days, the county would get a default judgement. However, if she does respond, three land commissioners will be appointed. If their appraisal is not accepted by Mrs. Baker, the matter would then go to a Circuit Court jury.

In other action, the court discussed short-term financing for funds to exercise their option on the eight parcels of land; to pay for site preparation for the new plant for SourceCorp and to pay for the steel for the building. \$250,000 worth of steel was ordered for the project and will be paid for by the county, rather than the contractor, to avoid a 6% sales tax charge.

Carloftis told the court that the options on the property on 461 and 150 were due to expire December 21st and he did not think permanent financing would be in place by that time. He said that the court needed to borrow \$1 million besides an additional \$300,000 provided by the county to meet all these expenses. The Judge said that interim financing would be arranged through a local bank or banks and would, hopefully, be for only 90 days. On a motion by Jan Stevens, seconded by Ralph Allen, the board approved borrowing the money.

Carloftis then presented the court with an ordinance, approving the lease of \$2.9 million in funds for construction of the building for SourceCorp. The ordinance involves a General Obligation Pledge of the county's assets. (A summary of the ordinance appears elsewhere in this week's *Signal*).

The \$2.9 million figure, instead of the original \$2.7 million is because the first payment on the loan would have been due June 1, 2009 with no

(Cont. to A13)

KYCORPS making some suggestions for ERWA

By: Richard Anderkin

Rockcastle County has a new organization which plans to oversee the actions and operations of public agencies and boards in the county, especially the board of Eastern Rockcastle Water Association, (ERWA).

ERWA association member Elmer Whitler, of Climax, said he had recently rejuvenated the Kentucky Citizens for Open and Responsible Public Services (KYCORPS), a not-for-profit organization, in an effort to keep the public better informed about the way public entities conduct business.

Whitler said that while KYCORP has statewide membership, it has focused locally

(Cont. to A13)

Blood Drive is Tuesday at FBC

Blood donors are needed more than ever during the winter season.

Holiday parties, colds and flu and wintry weather create plenty of excuses not to donate but the demand for blood continues. Elective surgeries, accidents, trauma and cancer therapies don't slow down, no mat-

(Cont. to A13)

Christmas parade in Brodhead is Saturday, 3 p.m.

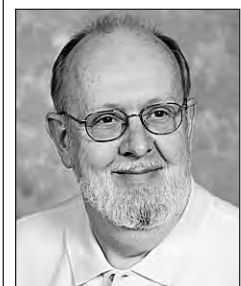
The annual Christmas Parade in Brodhead is scheduled for this Saturday at 3 p.m.

Line-up will begin at 2 p.m. at Brodhead Elementary School.

For more information call City Hall at 758-8635.



Members of the RCHS Brass Choir performed at Monday night's Tree Lighting at Tri-angle Park in Mt. Vernon. Some members of the choir shown above are, from left: Lillie Beichler and Meghan Nation, on the French Horns and Reanna Hasty on the Trumpet. A large crowd attended the annual event, which was sponsored by the Rockcastle Kiwanis Club. (Front page photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Rockcastle Memories

By David J. Griffin

Clap for the Wolfman

While riding in my new Tahoe listening to XM Radio, I recently discovered a station called "60's on 6." It plays music from the time when I was in high school, so I promptly programmed the station into my radio for easy access. But the thing that had really caught my attention was the DJ - it was none other than Wolfman Jack! My discovery was a music gold mine as far as I'm concerned because the station plays his original shows from his heyday in the early 1960's.

Robert (Bob) Weston Smith, better known to many of us "old-time" music lovers as Wolfman Jack, broadcast his early rock and roll show late at night from XERF-AM in Mexico. The station boasted 250,000 watts of music power that could be heard all the way across the southern United States and sometimes Canada. If the weather was just right, the show could be heard in Kentucky.

I first listened to Wolfman's show in the early 60's while lying in my bed with my transistor radio tucked under my pillow. His "raspy" introduction to rock classics made him an instant star. He was full of antics and craziness, keeping his listeners laughing all the while. A weather "forecast" might be: "it's gonna be 250 degrees in Fresno..."

The Wolfman was notorious for talking over the hits as he played them for his audience. (One of the shows that I recently listened to had him singing the entire record of My Girl by the Temptations.) That was alright with most of us teenagers because we loved his antics, raw talent, and his howls like a wolf.

His popularity grew sub-

stantially, but many of us had no idea who he was or where he really lived and worked. Bob Smith loved the secrecy and played up the character he had created. The national press began to take notice; Time, Newsweek, and Life did articles about his life and his radio success. The Who recorded a hit called, *Clap for the Wolfman*.

Clap for the Wolfman, He gon' rate your record high Clap for the Wolfman You gon' dig him till the day you die

Most of Smith's fans had never actually seen him until 1973, when he appeared in George Lucas' hit movie American Graffiti. Many people thought Wolfman Jack contributed to the success of this award-winning film. After its release, Smith began an eight-year stint as host of NBC's show Midnight Special.

I was fortunate enough to hear Wolfman Jack one night on my '58 Chevy radio. Several of us were parking near the Old Chapel in Renfro Valley. I suppose there were about three automobiles gathered at the time. We usually tuned our AM radios to WLS in Chicago. That night was no exception, and when the Wolfman introduced a song, we jumped out of our cars and began to dance all over the place. I later discovered that he did a stint at WLS in the '60's.

Even some of the most loved artists called into the Wolfman's program while he was on the air. I recall Tom Jones, Neil Sedaka, and even Bill Medley chatting with him during his show. Of course, it was the Wolfman who really made the interviews with his

(Cont. to A4)

Editor's Notes

By Richard Anderkin



There have been a lot more controversial subjects involving our local governing bodies, boards, commissions and associations in the county this year than in the past.

Some of those controversial subjects have generated several Letters to the Editor from our readers.

And, we certainly appreciate folks taking time to weigh in on subjects that we have tried to report on as best and as fairly as possible.

Our Letter to the Editor page gives our readers a place to voice their opinion on just about any subject.

It has always been our policy to print letters even if they criticize a governing body, or just one specific elected official, and that will continue to be our policy. After all elected officials for the most part are fair game.

But our readers who write letters need to keep in mind that it is our policy to edit or refuse any letter that is submitted for publication.

Writers should also remember that we make every effort to verify the author of each letter and if we can't that Letter will not be printed.

I'm sure there have been times in the past, and there will probably be times in the future, that a letter with a bogus name gets by us, but it will not be because we knew it was bogus.

This year we have thrown several letters in the trash submitted with false names and we have refused to run some let-

ters based on absurd and misleading statements and facts.

For example, in Mike Sheliga's Letter to the Editor last week, I failed to correct his statement about the city of Mt. Vernon's \$50,000 annexation ordinance. The city did budget \$50,000 for the implementation of the ordinance, but to date they have spent only \$16,619. It seems, for this fiscal year, that is a dead subject.

Statements such as these are at best on the fringe of only half true because they don't explain the entire situation, or the amount of money actually spent.

We have also declined to run some letters which were just too long. It is our policy to limit the number of words in a Letter to the Editor to no more than 350. We are very liberal when it comes to the limit on the number of words, especially if a reader has a valid point, but when the letter is extremely lengthy and can't be edited because it would take away from its meaning, we will not run it either.

Keep in mind that this publication is not a website where you can hide behind a screen name and say whatever you want to, whether it is correct or not. And, as long as this family owns and operates it, it never will be.

If you've got something to say, try to make sure that your facts are accurate and sign your name. Most likely it will get printed.

Points East

By Ike Adams

We always have a big bunch of leftovers after we finish gorging on Thanksgiving day. And I am not a person prone to let anything go to waste.

We never have any trouble making sure the leftover turkey and beans and corn and dressing all that stuff that wound up on the table finds an empty mouth even though it may take a few days to finish off the consumption.

I can, for example, eat cold turkey in one sort of salad or another or just plain chunked slathered with mayo between slices of bread, or cooked into soup with noodles and onions and white wine, or ground into thick sausage and seasoned with home grown sage and coarse black pepper.

The veggies and the pumpkin pie and the casseroles are normally gone a couple days after the fact in our family. We love the stuff we cook and not an ounce of it goes to waste. Including the main part of the turkey.

But the turkey is baked in a huge roasting pan at 325 degrees for something like 12 or 14 hours. Stuffed with onions and celery and apples and rubbed inside and out with all manner of herbs and spices, all soaked into its carcass while the bird does its thing in the oven.

And then it gets carved and chunked and shredded on the big day and the wings and skin and all the juices are left there

in the roaster and before you know it, more than half the turkey you started out with is juice and skin and bones and only about 40 percent actually makes it to the table.

We don't want the dogs to choke on the bones so we do fish them out and throw them in the garbage sack or down the disposal, and what you have left over is what dogs expect to be eating when they die and get to heaven; Kibbles and bits thoroughly soaked with turkey drippings and laced with pounds of skin and morsels gleaned from said discarded bones.

So, last Thursday night, I had a six quart kettle nearly full of drippings, etc from our bird that I carted home from daughter Jennifer's home and I figured my cat and my dog would enjoy them for at least a week. Fed out in moderate portions the turkey fat is wonderful for their coats and it turns the normal dry and boring stuff into a gourmet treat for them.

I set a bowlful out on the back door stoop for the dog just after dark and later went back out to notice that he had not touched it. Instead, he was humped up on the front porch whimpering and I thought he must be sick. I fetched the bowl from back entrance to the front and he wolfed it down as though he'd been starving for

(Cont. to A4)

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It's Honorable to be a Kentucky Colonel

There hangs a framed certificate on my office wall declaring that "The Honorable Don White is commissioned a Kentucky Colonel."

Prior to about 10:35 a.m. on Nov. 24, I'd never taken the honor seriously.

Maybe it had something to do with the fact I'd been commissioned a Colonel by at least three Kentucky governors prior to the latest from Ernie Fletcher.

Near as I could tell, being a Colonel, even one commissioned multiple times, hadn't done anything to enhance my life.

I may have been a Colonel, but I was anything but honorable, delighting in stories in which some reporter successfully secured a commission for a dog.

Reading obituaries (one of my favorite hobbies), I was often amused by the fact people listed being a Kentucky Colonel as one of the deceased's out-

standing accomplishments. So what happened on Nov.

(Cont. to A4)

What's Your Medical Family Tree?

Presented by Dr. Karen Saylor

Just as you may have inherited blue eyes, brown hair and "your father's nose," you may have inherited traits for certain illnesses. During a routine exam, your doctor is likely to ask about illnesses your parents and grandparents had or died from, how old they were, and if other relatives suffered from familial illnesses.

These traits are inherited in different ways. Dominant traits require only one gene from either parent to get the illness. If a parent had it, you have a 50% chance of having it. Recessive traits need genes from both parents, making them much less common. Other illnesses, such as diabetes, hypertension, and certain cancers, depend on a number of interacting genes. A couple genes involved in breast cancer have now been identified.

One of the most important times to review genetic illnesses is during pregnancy. Your doctor will ask if any relatives had miscarriages or children with birth defects, or if relatives suffered from illnesses during pregnancy, such as toxemia, diabetes, or other medical problems that may relate to childbirth.

Since your family history can be very important, it is wise to take a few minutes before your appointment to write down the illnesses your relatives have had and their ages when the illnesses occurred. It is much more significant if a parent had heart disease at age 40 than at age 80. This record should be given to your doctor to review and keep in your chart.

Knowing your family's medical history can help find and treat illnesses at an earlier stage. Equally important can be finding out that you do not have an illness that runs in the family, lifting a burden of worry from your mind.



Bobby Amburgey

Attorney-At-Law

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Rescue workers had to use the Jaws-of-Life to free a 63-year-old woman from her wrecked vehicle, after she lost control on a slick Hwy. 1505 Sunday around noon. Daisy Wheatly, 63, of Mt. Vernon Road, Berea, was taken to the Berea Hospital by members of the Rockcastle EMS, after suffering injuries to her head. Besides Rockcastle EMS, members of Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue and Brindle Ridge Fire Department responded to the accident.

Remembering loved ones during holidays

Annual Remembrance Tree Ceremony is December 7th

Hospice Care Plus will hold its annual "Remembrance Tree" Ceremony on Sunday, December 7th at 2:00 PM in the Richmond Mall. This heartfelt tradition gives community members the opportunity to remember loved ones during the holidays by placing a memorial ornament on the Remembrance Tree. The program begins with an

opening prayer, followed by holiday music and the reading of the names. During the reading of the names, family members and/or friends, place an ornament on the tree provided for them by Hospice. Each ornament will have a small card attached to it with the name of the loved one being remembered. For those unable to attend the ceremony,

Hospice Staff will place the ornament on the tree. The Remembrance Tree is displayed throughout the holiday season at the Richmond Mall.

Hospice Care Plus, which serves Estill, Jackson, Lee, Madison and Owsley counties, offers this ceremony every year as part of its commitment to providing bereave-

ment care to families as well as the community. "It is especially important to give the community an opportunity to remember loved ones during the holidays, when the festive atmosphere can make grieving stressful for those who have experienced a loss," says HCP Bereavement Coordinator, Nora Brashear. "This ceremony not only honors our loved ones, but the proceeds help make hospice care possible for people with no insurance and supports special programs in the community."

Those interested in placing a memorial or honorarium ornament on the tree can call Hospice Care Plus at 986-1500 or 1800-806-5492. Hospice staff will also be available to accept Remembrance Tree donations at the ceremony. Ornaments can be created for donations of any size and the ceremony is open to the community, not just to those served by Hospice Care Plus.

T.J.'s
Journal
by: *Tonya J. Cook*

Dear Journal,

The thick gray mist is hanging in the air, as thick as I've ever seen, just above the tree-tops. Although it isn't raining, there is a lot of moisture in the air, making it a very damp day. The temperature is only about forty degrees, at best, but it feels much colder. I guess it's what the old-timers call a "raw day."

However, on the inside, things seem a little brighter. There is a glowing fire in the fireplace, and I've gotten some fragrant candles burning here and there in the house that add that much more coziness to such a gloom-filled day.

It's a lazy Sunday afternoon, and Stanley and I aren't planning on going anywhere. We've had enough "going here and there" for Thanksgiving. We've been to London, Richmond, and Lexington for three meals. Then we had Thanksgiving at our house on Friday, with more guests coming to our place. This is just the kind of day for sitting deep in a favorite chair, covered up with a soft throw, all the way up to your neck, which is exactly what I did, as I gazed into a flickering fire.

Soon, my mind was wandering back to another time and place, as it so often does. Stanley and I have speculated that one of the reasons why people seek to live in the past as they get older is because that is where we were the happiest. As children, our lives were carefree, and the world still had an innocence that dissipates with age. I guess it's a form of escapism.

In any case, I was thinking back to a time on such a Sunday afternoon just as this, following Thanksgiving, my Uncle Junior would go to get our family Christmas tree. I usually went along to be sure he got the biggest one he could find. I knew just where we'd go, too. Although we lived just out of London, we'd go to

some land we owned over in Rockcastle County, in the area known at the time as Bloss. It was near the county line, after you cross the river, on the first road to the right. My grandpa had about a thousand acres of land, with some prime Christmas trees growing on it.

We headed out pretty soon after lunch, and it didn't take my uncle very long to find a good, big tree. Sometimes he'd get a cedar, or sometimes a pine; just whichever he came across first that was suitable. He'd put it in the trunk of the car, tie the lid down, and secure the tree with a rope. About three or four feet of the tree would stick out the back of the trunk. All of this was done under my careful supervision.

Before going home, we would usually drop by and visit with some old friends of the family, the Matt and Zi Graves family. Our families were really close with each other, and shared a lot of good times together, especially at Christmas.

Once my uncle and I got home with the tree, he would trim off the bottom half, so it would fit in the house. The leftover branches from the bottom were usually used as decoration, on top of pictures on the wall, much like a swag. I think the best memory about natural trees is the wonderful smell they produce. For several days after bringing the tree and branches inside, the house would smell so fresh and clean, like a part of the "great outdoors." It's hard to explain unless you've experienced it for yourself.

I snuggled a little deeper in the chair and decided that such an evening called for a cup of hot cider, or cocoa. I'm so fortunate to have these wonderful memories, and I certainly hope they last a lifetime. They make cold, wintry evenings very special, and even a little bit warmer.

Suggestions for the ERWA

The Eastern Rockcastle Water Association (ERWA) should improve its operation by obeying Kentucky laws. How about modeling ERWA after our county school board? Follow the law; become a more effective organization!

Obey these laws:

- Anti-nepotism
- Avoid and report potential conflict of interests
- Open meetings
- Open records
- Protect whistle blowers
- Take proper minutes

Kentucky Citizens
for Open and Responsible
Public Services



SUMMARY OF LEASE ORDINANCE AND NOTICE OF SECOND READING OF BOND ORDINANCE

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court, at a meeting to be held on December 11, 2008 at 1:00 p.m., in the Rockcastle County Courthouse, 205 East Main Street, Mount Vernon, Kentucky, will consider for passage, the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A LEASE FOR THE FINANCING OF THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION AND EQUIPPING OF A BUILDING IN A MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,900,000; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT AND SECURITY OF THE LEASE; CREATING A SINKING FUND AS SECURITY FOR THE LEASE; AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SUCH LEASE.

It is hereby certified that the foregoing provides for approval of a lease with Kentucky Area Development Districts Financing Trust for financing certain public improvements and provides a general obligation pledge to assess sufficient taxes to comply with the obligations to pay lease payments. The full text of the Section relating to the pledge to levy and assess a tax to pay the lease obligation is:

Section 2. General Obligation Pledge. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Commonwealth and Chapter 66 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, as amended (the "General Obligation Statutes"), the obligation of the Lessee created by the Lease shall be a full general obligation of the Lessee and, for the prompt payment of the Lease Payments, the full faith, credit and revenue of the Lessee are hereby pledged. During the period the Lease is outstanding, there shall be and there hereby is levied on all the taxable property in the Lessee, in addition to all other taxes, without limitation as to rate, a direct tax annually in an amount sufficient to pay the Lease Payments on the Lease when and as due, it being hereby found and determined that current tax rates are within all applicable limitations. Said tax shall be and is hereby ordered computed, certified, levied and extended upon the tax duplicate and collected by the same officers in the same manner and at the same time that taxes for general purposes for each of said years are certified, extended and collected. Said tax shall be placed before and in preference to all other items and for the full amount thereof; provided, however, that in each year to the extent that the other taxes of the Lessee are available for the payment of the Lease Payments and are appropriated for such purpose, the amount of such direct tax upon all of the taxable property in the Lessee shall be reduced by the amount of such other taxes so available and appropriated.

There is hereby established with the Lessee a sinking fund (the "Sinking Fund"). The funds derived from said tax levy hereby required or other available taxes shall be placed in the Sinking Fund and, together with interest collected on the same, are irrevocably pledged for the payment of all Certificates or obligations issued under the General Obligation Statutes and all Tax Supported Leases, as defined in General Obligation Statutes, including the Lease herein authorized, when and as the same fall due. Amounts shall be transferred from the Sinking Fund to the Lessor at the times and in the amounts required by the Lease.

A complete copy of the Ordinance may be reviewed at the office of the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court Clerk, 205 East Main Street, Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456.

County of Rockcastle

By: /s/ Patricia Martin
Fiscal Court Clerk

Christmas in Brodhead

Join us for a day of Celebration

Saturday, December 6th

Beginning with Breakfast at
Brodhead Volunteer Fire Department from
7 a.m. - 10 a.m. Carryouts Available.
Country Ham, Bacon or Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Fried Potatoes,
Gravy, Biscuits and Fried Apples.

"The Spirit of Christmas"

3 p.m. **Brodhead** 3 p.m.

Christmas Parade

Line-up 2 p.m. at BES • Everyone Welcome to Participate!

Visit Santa in the Fire House after the parade

Houses, Businesses and Floats will be judged late Thursday & Friday nights



68th Wedding Anniversary

CS and Marie McKinney of Mt. Vernon celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary on November 28th with their children Sharon, Lillian and Jack and all their grandchildren. We wish them many more happy anniversaries. We all love you very much!



Free Bible Courses

Free Bible Correspondence Course. Send your name and address to 3168 Quail Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456

Wanted

Anyone willing to work anytime, anywhere, whenever called upon. No training necessary, male or female, any age. Any nationality, race, size, shape or form. All participants accepted. Report to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Welcome to attend Maple Grove Baptist Church. Best retirement and benefits available.

Contact Bro. Jerry Owens for transportation at 606-256-3075.

Monthly Singing

New Hope Baptist Church at Orlando will hold their monthly singing Sat., Dec. 6th at 7 p.m. with the Praise Singers from Irvine. Pastor David Carpenter and congregation invite everyone to attend.

Christmas Play

Free Gospel Bible Institute of Export, PA will present a play entitled "The Christmas Not By Chance" at Hickory Grove Pentecostal Church on Thurs., Dec. 4th at 7 p.m. Bro. Randal Adams and congregation invite everyone to come and enjoy this presentation. For more information, call 758-8674 or 758-9736.

Supper & Auction

Mt. Vernon Church of God will hold a Christmas Supper and Auction on Fri., Dec. 5th. The supper will begin around 5:30 p.m. with the auction following. Everyone welcome. Please bring items to donate.

Pastor Bobby Owens and congregation invite everyone.

Church Auction

There will be a Church Auction at the Bride of Christ Church, High St., Mt. Vernon, on Sat., Dec. 6th at 1 p.m. Items to be auctioned include: some antiques, Home Interior, exercise equipment, lots of everything -- too many items to list. Food and drinks available. All proceeds go to the church.

Singing at New Hope

There will be a singing at New Hope Baptist Church on Sat., Dec. 6th. The Praise Singers will be featured. Singing will begin at 7 p.m. Pastor and church welcome everyone.

Revival

New Hope Full Gospel Fellowship Church will be in revival Dec. 1-4 at 7 o'clock nightly with Bro. Martin Sarver evangelist. The church is located on old 461, next to Bullock's Muffler Shop.

Phillips Cemetery

Improvements to Phillips Cemetery at Three Links are almost complete. Contributions are needed to help finish paying for the work that is being done.

For more information, or to make a contribution, contact: Mabel Davidson, 4155 Three Links Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 - Ph. 606-965-3123 or Joyce Phillips, 3967 Three Links Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 - Ph. 606-256-1591.

Thanks to those who have already contributed.

Live Nativity

Skaggs Creek Baptist Church's Live Nativity Scene will be shown December 12th and 13th from 7 to 9 p.m. Sandwiches and hot chocolate will be served inside the church.

The congregation welcomes everyone to come out and enjoy this event.

Valley Baptist Church 100th Anniversary

Valley Baptist Church, 4482 Copper Creek Road, will celebrate their 100th year anniversary on Sunday, December 7 from 9:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this special event. All families of former pastors are encouraged to participate.

There will be a fellowship meal and a photo presentation of the earliest pictures up thru current events.

For more information, call Bro. Tony Shelton at 606-308-1496 or 606-758-8162 or the church at 895-925-2262.



Burdette - Santo vows said

Clayton and Deanna Burdette would like to announce the marriage of their daughter, Leslie Ann Burdette to Michael Douglas Santo, son of Rick and Jackie Santo. Michael and Leslie were married on November 22, 2008 at the Bride of Christ in Jesus Name Church in Mount Vernon. Leslie is a student at Somerset Community College and is employed at Walmart. Michael is serving in the Army National Guard and has recently completed a tour in Iraq. Michael and Leslie Santo would like to thank their friends and family for supporting them as they start their lives together.



Taylor - Gilbert

Mr. and Mrs. Casper Coy Taylor, of Quail, would like to announce the engagement and marriage of their daughter, Bethany Brook to Andrew Justin Gilbert, son of Jack and Betty Gilbert of Livingston. The wedding will take place at Ottawa Baptist Church on December 13, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Bethany is a 2007 graduate of Rockcastle County High School and is attending the University of Kentucky. Justin is a 2003 graduate of Rockcastle County High School and is employed by NACCO in Berea.

Gift cards might not be a great holiday gift

Family and Consumer Sciences

Hazel Jackson

Rockcastle County Extension Office



Many consumers have bought gift cards as holiday presents in recent years; but, with an economic recession and many companies now filing for bankruptcy, this might not be a good year to buy them. According to National Public Radio (NPR), many retailers that file for bankruptcy will not honor their gift cards. Some will, though bankruptcy protection tends to leave the consumer out in the cold, and many consumers are realizing they would do well to find other gift-giving options.

Besides bankruptcies, store closures can inconvenience recipients, forcing them to travel farther to use their gift cards. Current news stories report many chains are now closing stores to save money. You might ask yourself whether the person receiving your gift card will want to drive very far to use his or her card. If not, it could go unused. Consumer Reports has found that "25 percent of gift cards go unused each year, and they can carry fees and expiration dates". That number could grow this year.

Economic woes, however, are not the only problem affecting gift cards, as they are open to fraud. You might not think so, but thieves can gain access to your gift cards, as they can with credit cards. If you have seen the display racks of gift cards at chain stores, you start to see how it can be done. Thieves have been known to copy down the card numbers from cards on display, then calling the retailers to see if they've been activated yet and perhaps checking on the balance; once they find they have an active card with money on it, they place online orders, leaving the card recipient with no money on their card when they go to use it.

Many retailers make their gift cards more secure by employing encoded PINs, but those are not foolproof. The person buying the gift card can improve their chances of giving a valid card by having it activated on the spot and asking the clerk to verify the balance. And the recipient does well to use the card as soon as they can to avoid unauthorized use, as well as the problem of a bankrupt retailer.



21st Wedding Anniversary

Everett and Sharon Wagner of Livingston will celebrate their 21st wedding anniversary December 11, 2008.

Library News



Pam Chaliff

Winter is officially here and the library would like to remind everyone that the library may be closed because of dangerous weather conditions. If the library closes it will be announced on WRVK 1460.

On Tuesday 9th at story hour, the children will be making Santa faces. At crafts that day, the kids will be making snowflakes. Story hour is every Tuesday at 1:00 for children ages birth-4. Craft time is

every Tuesday at 5:00pm for kids ages 4-10.

On Thursday 11th at 4:00pm, the library will be having a movie day. The movie showing will be Wall-E. The movie will begin at 4:00pm in the main library. Everyone is welcome to attend. The library will be providing refreshments for those who attend.

The library will be closing early on Monday 8th at 5:30pm

WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY! WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY! WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY!

MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK!



CASH N' CARRY SPECIALS EVERYDAY

Berber Carpet
Lots of colors to choose from
55¢ Sq. Ft. or **\$4⁹⁹** Sq. Yd.

Armstrong Sticky Tiles
49¢ Sq. Ft.

Armstrong Vinyl
55¢ Sq. Ft. or **\$4⁹⁹** Sq. Yd.

15 Year Laminate
99¢ Sq. Ft.

Mohawk Plush
77¢ Sq. Ft. or **\$6⁹⁹** Sq. Yd.

Area Rugs
Starting at **\$29⁰⁰** Ea.

Ceramic Tile
99¢ Sq. Ft.

Bruce Hardwood
\$2⁹⁹ Sq. Ft.

Baker's Carpet Barn

914 Bypass Somerset On CARPET MOUNTAIN

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6 MONTHS SAME AS CASH! • LOWEST PRICES ANYWHERE!

Largest in-stock selection of carpet & vinyl from Cincinnati, Ohio to Knoxville, Tenn.



WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY! WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY! WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY!

The Rockcastle County Recycling Center will be open Saturday, December 6th 8 a.m. until noon

The following items may be recycled:

Newspapers w/inserts, magazine and catalogs, office paper, junk mail plastic bottles and jugs (any size soda and water bottles, laundry detergent jugs, bleach and fabric softener jugs, milk and water jugs, cooking oil bottles and jugs, shampoo bottles, dish liquid and alcohol bottles - all lids must be removed and thrown into the trash - not be included with recyclables - jugs must be rinsed out), metal cans (rinsed), empty aerosol cans, aluminum cans, phone books, old cell phones, car batteries, printer cartridges and cardboard.

Rechargeable batteries such as those found in: cordless power tools, cellular phones (the whole phone can be recycled), cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, two-way radios, camcorders and remote control toys. If its says rechargeable on it, then it's recyclable!

Regular hours are Mon. thru Fri. from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Rockcastle County Recycling Center is located at the Rockcastle County Road Department Garage at 2528 South Wilderness Road (US 25 South at Burr).

For further information, call 606-256-1902



Riding their motorcycles in Tuesday night's Christmas parade in Mt. Vernon, were at left: Paul Miller and Vincent Fish, right.



Santa, aka Mike Bryant, arrived in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday night during the annual Christmas Parade with the help of Elves, Pam Burdette, and Casey McClure. A large crowd attended the second annual night parade. (Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Carroll Rousey and wife, Rowena, left and Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby, right, are shown with five of the eight historical documents that were recently hung at Mt. Vernon City Hall. The historical documents include the Ten Commandments, Bill of Rights, Star Spangled Banner, Mayflower Document, Declaration of Independence, Kentucky Constitution and the Lady Justice Document. A document of American Law and Government also hangs in city hall explaining the purpose and legality of the documents. Carroll Rousey has been placing documents in public buildings in Kentucky for the past seven years. The City of Mt. Vernon donated \$200 for the cost of the documents.



The Kids For Christ Youth Group from the Bible Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon participated in the Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade on Tuesday night. Carrying the banner for the Youth Group were: Lauren King and Kylee Fain.

Merry Christmas
from
Barnett Cycle

We have lots of Christmas gifts!
Helmets • Gloves • Boots • Pants • Shirts
We can order anything for your ATV, Dirt & Street Bikes
Call 256-5678

Fish Fry
North Atlantic Cod
Lil's Place
Main St. • Livingston
Saturday, December 6th
Begins at 2 p.m.
Everyone Welcome

UK Radiation Oncology
Now available at Rockcastle Hospital
and Respiratory Care Center

Dr. Pushpa Patel

Pushpa Patel, MD, an experienced, board-certified radiation oncologist and long-time faculty member at the University of Kentucky, is available to see patients for consultations and follow-ups, with her practice limited to radiation oncology. Dr. Patel will provide individualized assessment and care, including coordination of referrals to the most appropriate facility if radiation therapy is needed.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call **606-256-7798**.

Clinic address:
145 Newcomb Ave.
Mount Vernon, Kentucky

ROCKCASTLE
HOSPITAL AND RESPIRATORY CARE CENTER, INC.

UKHealthCare
Markey Cancer Center

December 6, 2008 **JINGLE BELL Run/Walk** Renfro Valley, KY

Sponsored By:
ROCKCASTLE
HOSPITAL AND RESPIRATORY CARE CENTER, INC.
UKHealthCare

Signature HealthCARE
Renfro Valley
Christmas in the Valley

Start Times:
The 6K Walk will begin at 8:30 am EST and the 6K Run will begin at 9:00 am EST Saturday, December 6, 2008. Registration begins at 7:45 am.

Courses:
The 6K Run/Walk highlights historic Renfro Valley. Aid and water stations will be located at the turnaround. Officials will direct and supervise the course. The Run/Walk will start and finish at the Renfro Valley Entertainment Center.

Features:
• Custom designed long-sleeve t-shirt
• Door prizes (Open to all. Must be present to win.)
• Hospitality area

Awards:
• 6K Run/Walk—1st three in each age division
• Overall male and overall female

Registration Fees:
• Pre-registration (by November 29)—\$15.00
• Registration (day of Run/Walk)—\$20.00

NEW Family Rate
Immediate family of 3-5:
• Pre-registration—\$35 per family
• Registration (day of run/walk)—\$50

Make Checks Payable to:
Jingle Bell Run/Walk
• Send payment to:
Arielle Reese
Rockcastle Hospital, Inc.
P.O. Box 1310
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
• Fees are non-refundable

Contact:
• Arielle Reese (606) 256-7880

2008 Jingle Bell 6K Run/Walk Registration

Name _____
Age _____ Sex _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
E-mail _____
Phone (_____) _____
T-Shirt Size (Circle one): S M L XL 2X

Please read this waiver carefully
WAIVER: The applicant hereby releases Rockcastle Hospital, Renfro Valley Entertainment, and any other sponsors, promoters, contributing agencies, volunteers, and merchants from any and all claims and damages arising out of the applicants participation in any of the events and does not hereby represent that he or she has trained for the event being participated in and is in condition for said event. The applicant hereby understands that said events may take place regardless of weather conditions and the entry fee is not refundable. T-shirts will be sent to those who cannot attend but have already paid, and when it has been requested in writing by the registrant and is accompanied by a \$5.00 mailing fee.

Participant(s) Signature (Or parent's signature if under 18) _____ Date _____

Make Checks Payable to:
Jingle Bell Run/Walk.
Send this form and payment to: Arielle Reese, Rockcastle Hospital, Inc., P.O. Box 1310, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456. Fees are non-refundable.

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Mt. Vernon
606-256-9810
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Open 7 Days
a Week!
8 a.m. to
9 p.m.

Save up to 40% Everyday on your total grocery bill

Extra Savings

**Pork Loin
ROASTS**
99¢
Lb.

Extra Savings

**Beef
Chuck
Roast**
2²⁹
Lb.

Extra Savings

**Chicken Breast
Tenders**
1⁴⁹
Lb.
Family Pack

Extra Savings

14"
**Pepperoni or Supreme
Paisno Pizzas**
5⁴⁹

Extra Savings

**Mrs.
Smith's
Cobbler**
32 oz.
Blackberry or Peach
3⁹⁹

Extra Savings

**Little Debbie
Christmas
Cakes**
7.5 oz. box Asst.
4/\$5

Produce



**Loose Sweet
Potatoes**
4⁹¢
Lb.

Produce



**Russet
Potatoes**
2⁹⁹
8 Ea.

Produce

**3 Lb. Bag
Asst.
Apples**
2⁰⁰
Loose Apples 79¢ Lb.

Produce



4 lb.
Oranges
2⁹⁹

Produce

Cabbage
2⁹¢
Lb.
**Fresh
Turnips**
9⁹¢
Lb.

Extra Savings

**Carnation
FUDGE KIT**
5⁹⁹
31.5 oz. pk.

Extra Savings

**Panner
Peanut
Butter**
1⁴⁹
18 oz. Jar
Creamy/Chunky

Extra Savings

**Bryer's
Ice Cream**
3⁴⁹ 1.5 Qts.
Buy 2 Get a
FREE
Mrs. Smith's Pie
w/in-store coupon

Extra Savings

**Kraft Deluxe
Macaroni and
Cheese**
3/\$5
12 oz. box

Extra Savings

**Hargis House
CHILI**
with or w/o Beans
7⁹¢
15 oz. can

Extra Savings

**Quaker
Quick
Oats**
2⁹⁹
42 oz. box

Extra Savings

**Aunt Jemima
Pancake Mix**
1⁹⁹
32 oz. box

Extra Savings

**Ragu Spaghetti
Sauce**
Family
Size **1⁹⁹**
33.5 oz. jar Asst. Flavors

Extra Savings

Ore-Ida Fries
2⁹⁹
32 oz. bag

Extra Savings

**Panda
Bathroom Tissue**
9⁹⁹
24 Pk/Big Rolls

Extra Savings

PECAN ROLL
9⁹¢
4 Oz.

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Great Food  Great Prices!™

Save up to 40% Everyday on your total grocery bill

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**POST
KIDS CEREALS**
2⁴⁹
17 oz. Box/Asst. Flavors



Margie Blanton celebrated her 79th birthday on November 22nd at the Morning Point Assisted Living in Richmond. Helping her celebrate were: Bobby and Lawrence, Charles and Lois Lawrence, Jackie and Doris Lawrence, Herbert Ray and Eula Lawrence, Wanda Smith, Evalene Reynolds, Lisa Hopkins, Bill and Darlene Cromer. Everyone enjoyed a good dinner and cake and ice cream. She received many nice gifts.



Happy 11th Birthday on Tristan Begley!
Love - Dad, Mom, Papaw Jack, Pappie and Uncle Phillip

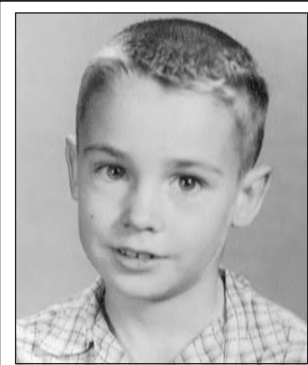
Clell and Chere' Swinney are proud to announce the upcoming birth of their first child. Baby Maliyah is expected during the second week of December, and while it's been a wonderful, healthy pregnancy, the parents-to-be are anxiously ready and waiting for her arrival. "We would like to thank all our family and friends, our co-workers at Rite Aid and SPC for their encouragement, love and support. Most of all, we thank God for the miracle He's blessed us with and we can't wait to meet the newest addition to our family."



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Birthdays Celebrated

Rockcastle UNITE Coalition
Join Us!
The Rockcastle UNITE Coalition meets on the second Wednesday of each month, at noon, at the Renfro Valley Lodge.



No longer a Pixie, Gary is Sixty, We all sing Dixie!!
Louise & Sue

Kentucky Crossword # 391

www.kentuckycrosswords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
20				21				22				
23				24				25				
26				27				28	29	30		
31	32	33		34	35			36				
37				38				39				
40				41	42			43	44			
45				46				47				
48				49	50			51	52	53		
54				55				56				
57	58			59				60				
61				62				63				
64				65				66				

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ACROSS

- 1 1983 Derby winner, Sunny's __, or aura
- 5 Hamster's home
- 9 Host
- 14 Jewish month
- 15 Horse course
- 16 Certain law officers
- 17 Small bag
- 18 Big name in chips
- 19 Welcome
- 20 KY governor who later became governor of the Montana Territory
- 23 Thumbs-up
- 24 Wager
- 25 Asian language
- 26 A KY soft drink, __-8-One
- 27 He won the US Senate seat of 31 Across in 1998
- 31 KY governor who went on to serve in the US Senate
- 36 The Everly Brothers, e.g.
- 37 "Iliad", for one
- 38 Fed. warning syst.
- 39 Disentangle
- 40 Permit
- 41 KY's first and fifth governor
- 45 Crimson
- 47 As well
- 48 Sleep stage
- 49 FDR's mother
- 51 Constrictor
- 54 KY governor 1974-79, went on to serve in the state senate
- 57 Accra's land

DOWN

- 1 Nickname of former KY governor Chandler
- 2 Dote
- 3 Cedar Creek and Dale Hollow
- 4 Mine finds
- 5 Sanders of KFC
- 6 __-garde
- 7 Kentuckian, country music singer Crystal
- 8 Otherwise
- 9 Country from which the thoroughbred horse originates
- 10 KY county, location of the state's geographic center
- 11 Canadian tribe
- 12 Squeeze (out)
- 13 A KY time zone
- 21 Narrative
- 22 Mumble
- 26 Commercials
- 27 Pear type
- 28 TV's "American __"
- 29 Unfeeling
- 30 Percoid fish

31 Fuse

32 Fencing sword

33 Memo

34 Starring role

35 LAX overseer

39 Corp. top dog

41 Immigrants from this country helped build the Portland-Louisville Canal

42 18-wheeler

43 Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame broadcaster Wes

44 Frost

46 Trimmer

49 Muzzle

50 A mite

51 Wood plank

52 Former ML shortstop, Kentuckian, __ Beard

53 KY county, home to Dollar General Corporation

54 Coffee

55 Rainbows

56 W. KY political boss known as the "Sage of Russellville"

57 Govt. property org.

58 Chop down

Livingston Fire Dept.
TURKEY SHOOT
Saturday, Dec. 13th • 10 a.m.
Clyde Carpenter Bottoms
So. of Livingston on US 25
410-16-20-12 Gauge Shot Guns Only!
\$2.00 A Shot
Shells furnished by Fire Department
Concession will be sold by Livingston Fire Dept.

Benefit Supper for Ann Sargent (ER Nurse)
A helping hand to benefit a person who has dedicated her life to helping others.
When: Dec. 19th at 6 p.m.
Where: RCMS Cafeteria
Admission: \$5 (includes meal)
ALL DONATIONS WELCOME!
Chili * Sandwiches * Dessert
Cake Auction and Live Music
Benefit is to help cover expenses and every day living after hit and run accident

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Sat. 9:00-5:00 • Sunday - See you in Church!
This Ad Values \$10.00 of Color/Highlight or Perm with William NEW STAFF MEMBER ONLY Expires 12/31/08

Give a Gift of Memories This Season!
Letters from Wildie
Norma Ramsey Eversole
Now available at Cox Hardware in Mt. Vernon

Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board
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www.coxfuneralhomeky.com

Bookmobile Schedule
Mon., Dec. 8th: No service. Tues., Dec. 9th: No service. Wed., Dec. 10th: Scaffold Cane, Disputanta, Anglin Falls, Clear Creek, Wildie. Thurs., Dec. 11th: Pongo Fire Dept., stops off 461, Negro Creek, Bryant Ridge.

Project Graduation Meeting
There will be a Project Graduation 2009 meeting Monday, Jan. 5th at 6:30 in the high school cafeteria. Meetings will follow on the first Monday of each month. All parents/guardians of seniors are urged to attend.

WRVFD Christmas Potluck
Western Rockcastle Volunteer Fire Department will hold a Christmas potluck Sat., Dec. 6th at 6 p.m. Everyone come, bring a covered dish and enjoy a good time.

Woodment of the World Christmas Dinner
Woodmen of the World will host a Christmas Dinner for members of the lodge at the Tea Cup Cafe, Main St., Mt. Vernon, on Dec. 11th, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. For more info, contact the Berea Lodge Hall at 859-986-0736, Mary Ann McNew 606-256-4046 or Vicki Chasteen 606-256-4817.

Holiday Classes at Extension Office
Dec. 5th and 12th: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Sit-N-Sew; finish sewing your holiday gifts. You must register for all classes. Call 256-2403 to register for supplies and/or costs.

Turkey Shoot
Livingston Fire Dept. will host a Turkey Shoot Saturday, December 13th at 10 a.m. at Clyde Carpenter Bottoms, South of Livingston on US 25. 410-16-20-12 Gauge Shot Guns only. \$2.00 a shot. Shells furnished by the fire department and concessions also will be sold by the fire department.

Herbalist Free Consultation
A Free Wellness Consultation, by a certified herbalist/nutritionist, will be given Tues., Dec. 9th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Believers House of Prayer, 156 Scenic View Lane, 1 mile north of Renfro Valley.

Brodhead Christmas Parade
The Brodhead Christmas Parade will be Dec. 6th at 3 p.m. with line-up at 2 p.m. at Brodhead Elementary School. Everyone is invited to participate. Floats, businesses and homes will be judged again this year!!!

Christmas Concert at RCHS
The annual Christmas Concert at Rockcastle County High School will be held Monday, Dec. 15th at 7 p.m. The concert will feature the band and chorus. Refreshments will be served beginning at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. The first annual **Christmas Around Town Holiday Tour** will be held Friday, December 19th. Tickets are on sale at The Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and at Rockcastle High School. The tour includes holiday music, crafts, caroling, Santa and more! For more information, contact Anita Nation or Janice Miller at 606-256-4816 or call the Hall of Fame at 256-1000.

RCIDA Meeting
The Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority holds its regular meeting the first Monday of each month at noon on the third floor of the courthouse.

Historical Society Hours
Rockcastle Historical Society is open Mondays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the RTEC garage building. Due to the holidays, regular monthly meetings will not be held in Nov. and Dec. Meetings will resume in Jan., 2009.

NA Women's Meeting
The Women's NA Serenity Group of Mt. Vernon meets each Monday at 8 p.m. at the Christian Appalachian Project Community Center, 64 Beiting Lane, Mt. Vernon. Open meeting - non-smoking.

Women's Narcotics Meeting
There will be a Women's Narcotics Anonymous Meeting every Monday evening at 8 p.m. at the Community Center, sponsored by Christian Appalachian Center. For more information, contact the Healing Rain Center at 256-5810.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.

Narcotics Anonymous
Narcotics Anonymous meets Thursday nights at 8 o'clock behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.

Gentle Relief

Back Pain
Neck Pain
Pinched Nerves

Dr. Meyer is a Humana provider. Also covered is Auto Insurance, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, CHA, UHC, Medicare, Medicaid, and many others. We will verify chiropractic coverage for you!

Mt. Vernon CHIROPRACTIC
Dr. Max Meyer
70 School St. • Mt. Vernon
606-256-1986

Rockcastle County High School Academic Honor Roll



Rockcastle County High School senior Rachel Woodall has a grade point average of 4.1 and is one of several students tied for the third highest ranking of the 207 seniors in the 2009 graduating class at RCHS. Woodall is the daughter of Harold and Mary Woodall of Brodhead. Rachel has scored a 33 on the ACT test of a possible 36, which is the highest of any of the 207 seniors at RCHS, so far. Rachel is considering attending the University of Kentucky, Centre College or Transylvania in the Fall, where she will possibly study courses in pre-Pharmacy. Rachel is a member of the National Honor Society, BETA Club, Health Students of American, (HOSA), Y-Club and the Rocket Club. She currently serves as secretary for HOSA and the Y-Club and was a two year member of the RCHS Golf team. Rachel currently has advanced placement classes in Chemistry and Calculus and as a junior she took advanced placement history. Rachel also is a co-op student in the Library at Roundstone Elementary School.

Leadership Rockcastle celebrates graduation

The Leadership Rockcastle class of 2008 celebrated the completion of their ten month dedication to the leadership course, facilitated by Brushy Fork Institute, on November 18th.

The ceremony was held at the middle school cafeteria with a meal for graduates and their guests. Each year, individuals or teams take on a community project. Class presentations this year included the development of a billboard that will advertise Rockcastle, a forestry project, Leadership Rockcastle Teen,

Halloween at Brodhead and a parks and recreation project at Lake Linville that will take place in the spring.

This program began in February of 2008 with a week end retreat in Prestonsburg and Hindman. Following the retreat, the group met once a month in a variety of locations around the county.

A total of 15 graduates now join the Leadership Rockcastle Alumni group that meets once a month to discuss important county issues. The alumni group now has 70 members.

The development board, which sponsors this program, has begun seeking nominees for the class of 2009. If you, or anyone you know, has an interest in this program, please contact Corey Craig at 256-2500 or Lynn Tatum, Project Coordinator at 256-8007.

2008 graduates were: Roy

Donovan Adams, Anthony Coffey, Leon Davidson, Joanne Edgington, Robert and Eddie Fields, Matthew Hupp, Joshua Hampton, Nancy Hale, Kelli Loudermilk, Sheila Lovell, Shelley Raines Lewis, Becky McNabb, Randall Powell and Arielle Reese.

Minds in the Middle

Congratulations to all of the RCMS students who participated in the 4-H speech contest this week. In the competition for 11 year-olds, the 1st place winner was John David Hurley. Coming in 2nd place was Anna Poynter. In the 12 year-old division, the 1st place winner was Danielle McNew. The 2nd place winner was Amelia Eversole. Casey Walker also received a blue ribbon. Among the 13 year-olds, the 1st place winner was John Hughes and the 2nd place winner was Kelsey Mattingly. The 1st place winner in the 14 year-old group was Laiken Coffey. We are very proud of the job that all of our students did.

There will be an after school dance this Friday sponsored by the boys basketball teams. Students must have team and parental permission in order to attend and should be picked up at 5:00.

The RCMS Unite Club and the Student YMCA will be teaming up to conduct a food drive for the Mt. Vernon Food and Clothing Mission. The drive will run through December 17th and the goal is to receive 2009 food items.

The Rockcastle Student YMCA Delegation did an outstanding job at the East Junior Kentucky Youth Assembly. The Outstanding Legislative Speaker Award went to Jacob Taylor and the Outstanding Premiere

Speaker Award was given to Anna Poynter. There were two bills signed by the governor: Bill #21 presented by Charity Adams, Elizabeth Lawrence, Allison Burdette, and Alexis Young and Bill # 25 presented by Rebekah Ponder, Cali Parker, Brianna Burdette, and Ashley McCoy. In addition Aston Arvin was named governor for the 2009 East Junior KYA. Congratulations on a great job.

Robinson Scholar applications are now available to 8th graders who will be first generation college students. Students cannot apply if they have a parent or guardian with a 4-year college degree. The Robinson Scholar Program offers a full 4-year scholarship to the University of Kentucky or one of its community colleges. Applications may be picked up from Ms. Cromer.



Wishing you a very Merry Christmas! from all the staff at Inspired Image

Bootsie, Sherry, Karen, Brandi, Courtney, Mark and Jessica

These are just a few of our Christmas Specials!!
10% Off Pedicures
Glo Minerals Gift
w/ \$65 purchase or more
All Christian T-Shirts
Buy 1 get One 1/2 Off
(All specials good through December)

Call for an appointment today!

606-256-2227

Walk-Ins Welcome!

525 Richmond St.
Mt. Vernon, Ky.



First Baptist Church Mt. Vernon
Christmas Choir
presents

ONCE UPON A HOLY NIGHT

THE STORY OF GOD'S PROMISE
Directed by Mrs. Jamie Cornelius

Sunday, December 14th
7:00 p.m.

All are invited to attend!
For more information or transportation
call 256-2922



For Sale
Just in time for Christmas!
AKC Reg Boxer Pups
Call 606-256-4500 or 606-392-1400
Ready to go week of Christmas!

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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Holiday Specials Payment Sale

2006 Uplander LS - DVD, quads	\$198/mo.
2007 Forenza - Auto, air, 25K	\$219/mo.
2006 Chrysler Town & Country - DVD, 47K	\$231/mo.
2007 Chevy Aveo LS - Auto, 5K	\$242/mo.
2007 PT Cruiser - 30K	\$241/mo.
2007 Grand Caravan SXT - Stow & Go	\$242/mo.
2007 Dodge Charger - 26K	\$352/mo.
2008 Forenza - Auto, air, 12K	\$253/mo.
2007 Chevy Silverado - 4x4	\$264/mo.
2007 Ram 1500 - Only 9,500 miles	\$264/mo.
2006 Pacifica - Pwr seat, alloys, 35K	\$264/mo.
2005 Trailblazer 4x4 - Roof, pwr seat	\$264/mo.
2005 Nissan Quest - Quads, 36K	\$264/mo.
2007 Cobalt LT - Spoiler, alloys	\$275/mo.
2007 Chevy HHR LS - 32K	\$286/mo.
2007 Malibu LS - GAS SAVER	\$286/mo.
2007 Chevy Uplander LS - Alloys	\$286/mo.
2007 Taurus SE - Leather, roof	\$286/mo.
2006 Liberty 4x4 - Alloys, 31K	\$286/mo.
2006 Pontiac G-6 - Roof, 35K	\$286/mo.
2005 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 - 44K	\$286/mo.
2008 Fusion SEL - Loaded	\$308/mo.
2008 Grand Prix - Spoiler, alloys	\$308/mo.
2007 Ford F-150 (2 choose from)	\$308/mo.
2007 GMC Sierra - Only 12K	\$308/mo.
2007 Equinox LS - Alloys, 32K	\$319/mo.
2008 Mustang - Pony Pkg, 9K	\$329/mo.
2007 Mazda 5 - 3rd seat, 24K	\$329/mo.
2005 Cadillac Deville - Leather, 49K	\$329/mo.

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Mt. Vernon firemen Randy Bussell and Nathaniel Swartz prepare to enter a mobile home on Hwy. 1152 Tuesday morning. Firefighters contained the blaze to one room of the home, which was vacant at the time a fire broke out in a closet. Fire officials said the blaze is being considered as suspicious.

“Court Votes”

(Cont. from front)

lease payment coming from SourceCorp until July 1, 2009. Carloftis said he had asked if the first payment could be pushed back to December 1, 2009 and, in order to do so, the total amount had to be raised to the \$2.9 million figure.

Carloftis emphasized to the magistrates that borrowing the money as a general obligation debt to the county was still not a certainty since he was still working on an Industrial Revenue Bond issue through local banks but had been told by one of bank's officer that nothing could be presented in writing to the court until later this week.

Interest on a general obligation debt would be somewhat lower than on the Industrial Revenue Bonds but the county would not be obligated to repay the bonds should the worst case scenario occur, Carloftis said.

However, approval of the ordinance was needed at this time so that the county could recoup general fund money already spent on the project. Money spent for expenses on the project, up to 60 days before the ordinance, can be recouped by the county, Carloftis said.

Hopefully, the court will have information on issuing the Industrial Revenue Bonds before their regular meeting next Tuesday and the route for permanent financing of the project can be determined.

“ERWA”

(Cont. from front)

on improvements needed in the Eastern Rockcastle Water Association (ERWA).

“ERWA needs training of its board members in parliamentary procedures, customer relations, ERWA board obligations under Kentucky laws pertaining to open records and meetings, taking minutes of board deliberations and decisions and adherence to accounting, contracting and other reporting requirements of federal and state grants,” Whitler said.

“ERWA board members are sincere and want to improve. However, they are like Alice in Wonderland; they have to run to keep from getting further behind. The ERWA board has

an independent audit scheduled, and it has deliberated having legal counsel revise its by-laws to bring it up-to-date with the latest requirements of personnel law, protections against conflicts of interest, whistleblower protection, and open records and meetings. This level of change is daunting for a volunteer board; however, it has to be honestly and hurriedly pursued by the ERWA board and be supported by the ERWA staff and association members and water users. The future of the ERWA is at risk, if these changes are not made,” Whitler added.

Last week, KYCORP ran an advertisement in the *Signal* which made suggestions on the way ERWA's upcoming audit should be conducted and this week they are running an advertisement, suggesting that ERWA obey Kentucky laws and model their operation after the Rockcastle County Board of Education.

Since ERWA's office was moved from Climax to Livingston, a few months ago, Eastern Rockcastle Water Association's board has had a very public battle over the way business is conducted by their board and General Manager Randy Corry, and some members of the association, including Whitler.

Whitler said KYCORPS is a non-hierarchical organization, which means that it does not have the usual president, vice-president, and similar other officers and staff. It is an organization comprised of equal members who do the organization's work and sets its priorities. KYCORPS, while not being religiously affiliated, draws on the well-known Quaker-tradition of consensual action.

Membership in KYCORPS is open to association members of Kentucky public services, including water and all other utilities.

Whitler said a web site will soon be available to facilitate membership applications, dissemination of information, online surveys, blogs, and public dialogues on key issues.

“KYCORPS depends on grants and donations for its expenses and donated time by members to get its work done. No member of KYCORPS is compensated either in the form of pay or reimbursement of expenses. Our motto is, The KYCORPS: The Few, The Determined,” Whitler said.

Whitler also said the mission of KYCORPS includes:

- 1) Research on public services issues,
- 2) dissemination of information to the public,
- 3) training of members and the public regarding public service laws and regulations,
- 4) educating users as to their rights,
- 5) articulating the obligations of public service boards in terms of laws and funding requirements.

Whitler also said that several local individuals were already members of KYCORPS.

ERWA has 600 customers and meets the second Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. on the third floor of the Rockcastle Courthouse. December's meeting is next Tuesday, December 9th.

For the record, Whitler's wife June is a member of the ERWA board.

“Blood Drive”

(Cont. from front)

ter the season.

The next opportunity to donate locally is:

**First Baptist Church
Tues., Dec. 9 • 2 to 7 p.m.
In the gym at 340 West
Main St., Mt. Vernon**

“Kentucky patients depend on our generous blood donors year round,” said Loretta Robinson, donor recruitment specialist. “There's no better way to make you feel good on a dreary wintry day than by donating blood.”

Donors are encouraged to schedule an appointment by calling 1-800-775-2522.

There is no substitute for blood and 400 blood donors are needed everyday in the Kentucky Blood Center service area to meet the needs of Kentucky patients.

Blood donors must be 17 years old (16 with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds, be in general good health and meet additional requirements. 16-year-old donors must have a signed parental permission slip which can be found on the Kentucky Blood Center's web site, kybloodcenter.org.

Those wanting to donate blood can call 1-800-775-2522 or visit kybloodcenter.org for blood drive and donor center details. The Kentucky Blood Center is a non-profit organization, dedicated to ensuring a safe, adequate blood supply for 7 Kentucky hospitals and clinics thanks to generous blood donors in 62 counties.

Begley completes Officer's Training School

Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Edward Begley recently completed Officer's Training School on December 5th in Rhode Island.

Chief Petty Officer Bryan Edward Begley is a native of La Porte, Indiana and a 1994 graduate from La Porte High School. He joined the Navy in July 1994 and he completed basic recruit training at Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois in September 1994. After basic training, he then attended Operation Specialist “A” School in Dam Neck, Virginia. His first assignment was onboard USS Kauffman (FFG-59) from March 1995 to June 1998, where he was assigned to OC Division. During his tour onboard Kauffman he was promoted to Petty Officer Second Class.

After completion of two six-month deployments, three Counter-Drug Operations deployments onboard USS Kauffman, he was then honorably discharged from the Navy in June 1998 where he was hired on at Toyota's plant in Georgetown, Kentucky for two months as a spot welder and he then returned to active duty in the United States Navy. August 1998. In January 1999 he attended Air Intercept Controller Course NEC 0318 at Dam Neck, Virginia and received orders to PCU McFaul (DDG-74) from February 1999 to December 2000. While stationed onboard USS McFaul he earned his ESWS qualification. Additionally, he was entrusted with the duties as OI01 Work Center Supervisor.

After completion of USS McFaul's six-month deployment OS2(SW) Begley received orders to PCU Winston S. Churchill (DDG-81) from January 2001 to January 2003. While onboard USS Winston S. Churchill he was promoted to Petty Officer First Class and earned the designation as Combat Information Center Watch Officer. USS Winston S. Churchill was the first DDG-51 Flight IIA class to successfully complete three shock trials in Mayport, Florida. While on board OS1(SW) Begley also

received two Navy Achievement medals and two Flag Letters of Commendation.

After completion of USS Winston S. Churchill's six-month deployment and Foreign Officer's Sea Training Exercise OS1(SW) Begley received orders to USS Porter (DDG-78) from November 2003 to December 2005 as Assistant OI Division Leading Petty Officer and assumed Leading Petty Officer later in November 2004. While onboard USS Porter he qualified Anti-Surface Warfare Coordinator. He received two Navy Achievement Medals and was selected as one of three First Classes to receive the Naval Academy Class of 1978 Leadership Award.

After Completion of USS Porter's Foreign Officer's Sea Training Exercise and six month deployment, OS1(SW) Begley received orders to USS Normandy (CG-60) from December 2005 to November 2008 as Leading Petty Officer and was promoted to Chief Petty Officer in September 2006 where he assumed the

duties as the Leading Chief Petty Officer of OI Division. He received two Navy Commendation Medals and one Navy Achievement Medal and was selected for commissioning as Chief Warrant Officer Operations Technician. He reports to the USS Cole (DDG-67) in March 2009 and will assume the duties as CIC Officer. He married Janetta Mae McLemore, of Orlando, Kentucky on February 22, 1997 and they have one son, Tristan Edward Lee Begley, born December 7, 1997.



CW02 Bryan Edward Begley



Save the life of a little puppy

Several dogs and pups are up for adoption at the Rockcastle Animal Shelter on Deep Hollow Road, off Old Sigmon Road, at Roundstone. Above, Animal Shelter Director James Kidwell shows off a Black Lab pup which is one of many pups now up for adoption at the shelter. The adoption fee is \$20 and one of the pups at the shelter would make a great Christmas gift, plus you would be saving an animal's life. For more information call (606) 256-1833.

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At the new Saint Joseph - Berea Children's Ear, Nose & Throat clinic, board-certified otolaryngologist Terry Good, M.D., specializes in the care of children with disorders of the head and neck.

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PER GALLON OF GAS WITH YOUR IGA EXTRA SAVINGS CARD WHEN YOU FILL UP!

Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, December 4, 2008

Tree Lighting Ceremony held in Mt. Vernon



Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby flipped the switch to turn on the lights at the Tree Lighting Ceremony in Mt. Vernon on Monday night. The Mayor also spoke during the program.



Some of those in attendance at Monday night's Tree Lighting in Mt. Vernon were from left: Ann Benson, Steve Singleton, Melissa Singleton and Teresa Vanzant, a member of the Rockcastle Kiwanis Club which sponsored the event. Singleton also sang two Christmas songs during the program.



Katy Howard, who sang two songs during the Tree Lighting program in Mt. Vernon on Monday night was accompanied by her brother, Mikey, on the guitar.



Kiwanis Club member Gary Mink read from the Bible during the program at the Tree Lighting in Triangle Park in Mt. Vernon on Monday night. A very good crowd attended the annual event.





A very good crowd attended the annual Christmas Tree Lighting in Mt. Vernon on Monday night, including Rebecca Barron, Anita Barron and Jamie Alcorn. Alcorn also performed during the program. (Tree Lighting photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Kiwanis member Jim Earl Hammons, right, gave the opening prayer at Monday night's Tree Lighting Ceremony in Mt. Vernon. At left is Kiwanis Club President Robert Lawson, who served as Master of Ceremonies.

Absolute Auction
of Ms. Christine Taylor's
House and 4 Acres m/l in Tracts
Saturday, December 6, 2008 • 10:00 a.m.
Quail Section of Rockcastle Co., Ky.

LOCATION: In the Quail community of Rockcastle County. Turn off of Highway 150 at the Feed Mill onto Highway 70. Follow Highway 70 approx. 5 miles to the property. Auction signs are posted.

Ms. Taylor is relocating to a smaller home. She has authorized our firm to sell this nice country home for the absolute high dollar.

Tract 1: This tract contains 2.071 acres and is improved with a Brick/Vinyl home. The home consists of 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Kitchen with oak cabinets, Living room with gas fireplace, Family room, and Sun room with gas fireplace, Utility room and a partially finished basement. Amenities include: hardwood flooring, laminate flooring, carpet, covered porch, blacktop drive, city water, and septic system. Appliances, washer/dryer and deep freeze remain with the home.

Tract 2: This tract contains 0.659 acres.

Tract 3: The tract contains 0.591 acres.

Tract 4: This tract contains 0.597 acres.


Tract 5: This tract contains 0.569 acres.

Auctioneer's Note: If you're looking for a lovely home in the country, that has been immaculately kept, be sure to attend this auction. Any of the vacant lots would be ideal for building. Remember this is an Absolute Auction... Bid last and Buy!

Terms: 20% down day of sale, balance in 30 days.

Note: The purchaser of a single-family residence built before 1978 has a maximum of 10 days to inspect the property for the presence of lead base paint. The period for inspection begins November 26th through December 5th. The successful bidder must sign a waiver of the 10-day post sale inspection period.

Multi-Parcel Auction: This will be a multi-parcel absolute auction. The property will be offered in tracts and combinations selling in the manner that reflects the best returns for the sellers. This concept gives each and every prospective buyer the ability to purchase his or her individual tract or combination.



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News from the Rockcastle Courthouse

Marriage Licenses

Shian Ashley Blair Mahaffey, 19, Mt. Vernon, secretary to Michael Keith Wayne Denny, 21, Berea, Tokico. 11/22/08.

Circuit Civil Suits

Casper Galen Hurley vs. Rachel Renee Hurley, petition for dissolution of marriage.

James Edward Hayes vs. Erin Hayes, custody petition.

Karen Barron, et al vs. Betsy Harding, et al, petition for permanent custody.

Midland Funding LLC vs. Jerry Cain, \$6,405.85 plus claimed due.

Eva Payne vs. Rodger Payne, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Deeds Recorded

Jerry Warren Carter and Larry Dale Carter, Trustees, property in Rainbow Ridge Subdv., to Alfredo C. and Helia Cahve Gomez. Tax \$16.

David Gene French and Jimmy Ray French, co-executors, property at Clefrock, to Jimmy R. and Donna E. French. Tax \$10.

David Gene French and

Jimmy Ray French, co-executors, property in Rockcastle County, to Davy Gene and Becky French. Tax \$10.

Darren Ecklar, property in Quail Acres Subdv., to Cledith and Linda Winkler. Tax \$10.

Clarence Hasty, Jr. and Brenda Hasty, property in Rainbow Valley Subdv., to Aaron B. Hasty. No tax.

District Civil Suits

Castle Village Apartments vs. Scott and Sasha Martin, forcible detainer complaint.

Castle Village Apartments vs. Sarah Cope, forcible detainer complaint

GE Money Bank vs. Christopher Kirby, \$528.60 plus claimed due. C-00299

District Court

Hon. Kathryn C. Wood

Kayla Bentley: fines/fees due (\$228), bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to appear (fta)/5 days or payment.

Robert D. Burke: fines/fees due (\$183), bw issued for fta/4 days or payment.

Speeding: Ronald R. Byrnes, \$32 and costs; Reanna C. Smith, paid \$60 fine and \$133 costs; Hether D. Swett, \$44 fine and costs;

Steven D. Frederick: alcohol

intoxication, \$50 fine unlawful transaction with a minor, \$250 fine and costs and 30 days/probated 24 months on condition.

Christopher L. Hughes: operating on suspended/revoked operators license, \$100 fine and costs; failure to produce insurance card, \$50 fine; improper equipment, \$50 fine; contempt of court, \$50 fine/suspended on condition.

Russell L. Hodge: reckless driving, \$100 fine and costs; failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine.

Bobby J. Spurlock: failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine.

Tracy D. Isaacs: operating on suspended/revoked operators license, \$100 fine and 10 days/probated 24 months on condition; operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, \$200 fine and costs, \$375 service fee, 30 days operator license suspension and ADE authorized.

Adam L. Reed: operating ATV on roadway, \$25 fine; operating ATV without headgear, \$25 fine; license to be in possession, \$25 fine and costs.

Brandon Chase Sutton: fines/fees due (\$173), bw issued for fta/4 days or payment.

Christopher J. Deangelis: no operators/moped license, \$100 fine and costs; careless driving, \$50 fine.

Donna J. Ferch: fines/fees due (\$82), bw issued for fta/2 days or payment.

Donna K. Hakola: no operators license in possession, \$25 fine and costs; failure to produce insurance card, \$50 fine.

Yolanda J. Hale: speeding and failure to produce insurance card, license suspended for fta.

Christina N. Hubbard: speeding, \$28 fine and costs; failure to notify address change to Dept. of Transp. and excessive window tinting, \$25 fine, each/suspended on condition.

James E. Jones: failure to use child restraint device, \$50 fine and costs.

Marvin E. Kirby: no/expired registration plates, \$25 fine and costs.

Sandra K. Lambert: fines/fees due (\$125), bw issued for fta/3 days or payment.

Scott E. Martin: faulty

equipment, \$50 fine and costs.

Nathan A. Massingale: fines/fees due (\$341), bw issued for fta/8 days or payment.

Alicia McGuire: fines/fees due (\$190), bw issued for fta/4 days or payment.

Dalton Wayne Meyer: fines/fees due (\$178), bw issued for fta/4 days or payment.

Larry Biron Mullins, Jr.: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, bw issued for fta/license suspended.

Cory H. Park: speeding and failure to produce insurance card, license suspended for fta/bw issued

Buford Pearson: fines/fees

due (\$58), bw issued for fta/2 days or payment.

Rosella M. Phillips: theft by unlawful takings/shoplifting under \$300, \$250 fine plus costs and restitution.

Adam L. Reed: operating ATV on roadway, and other charges, license suspended for fta.

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CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Steven L. Beshear, Governor
Jonathan Miller, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Buzz Carlotts, Rockcastle County Judge/Executive
Honorable Michael E. Peters, Rockcastle County Sheriff
Members of the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Settlement - 2006 Taxes for the period January 1, 2007 through June 8, 2007. This tax settlement is the responsibility of the Rockcastle County Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the Rockcastle County Sheriff's taxes charged, credited, and paid for the period January 1, 2007 through June 8, 2007, in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 15, 2008 on our consideration of the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Based on the results of our audit, we present the accompanying comments and recommendations, included herein, which discusses the following report comments:

- The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties
- The Sheriff Did Not Maintain Accurate Receipts And Disbursements Ledgers
- The Sheriff Did Not Pay Interest Earned On A Monthly Basis
- The Sheriff Should Have A Written Agreement To Protect Deposits

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

September 15, 2008
State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, and sheriffs; and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at www.auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.

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Busy season for band

Submitted by A. B. Sharpe

It was dark as the RCHS Brass Choir gathered by the railroad tracks. It was snowy, windy and frigid as they removed their instruments from cold cases and warmed up. A crowd gathered around the gazebo sipping hot chocolate, which was sooo good on such a blustery night. The musicians made the final adjustments to their Santa hats and formed up off to the side of the gazebo. All their red noses and cheeks were in keeping with the season.

The ceremony opened with

a beautiful prayer and then the big tree was lit! At that moment the trumpets and horns of the RCHS Brass Choir rang out with blended harmonies and started the evening's serenade with Hark the Herald Angels Sing, followed by The First Noel, and then O Come All Ye Faithful. Finishing with God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, it seemed to end as soon as it had started. The evening held much more entertainment for those assembled round the tree, but the RCHS Brass Choir had a rendezvous scheduled at Pizza Hut. It was First Monday and that is always Band Night at Pizza Hut! It was a fitting start to a busy week of celebration. And hopes of a snow day kept dreams alive.

The RCHS Band will be busy throughout the season. Watch how they seamlessly change from one form to another; from Pep Band on Friday night to Marching Band on Saturday afternoon, and the next week from Concert Band performing in formal attire they will morph into a smaller ensemble, the Brass Choir. It's

amazing how they are able to transform their repertoire to fit each occasion. Come join them this season at one or all of their performances.

Friday, December 5th – The RCHS Pep Band will be playing in the stands at the doubleheader basketball game. Go Rockets!

Saturday, December 6th – Brodhead is having their annual Christmas Parade. The Marching Rockets will be there as well as many other participants. Come join in the fun.

Sunday, December 14th – The Rockcastle High Concert Band will be performing with the Central Kentucky Concert Band at Haggin Auditorium on the Transylvania University campus in Lexington. The concert this year is titled Back to Bayreuth, featuring the music of Richard Wagner. Soloist Kenny Meeker will also be performing. This special concert is free to the public. The curtain goes up at 7:30 pm. More information can be found at www.ckcb.com.

Monday, December 15th – The RCHS Music Department presents their 2nd annual "Sounds of the Season Concert" which features the RCHS Chamber Choir, Brass Choir, Concert Band, and Mixed Chorus. They will be performing various holiday selections and

will end with a finale featuring a special rendition of "Twas the Night Before Christmas. Refreshments will be served in the foyer of the auditorium beginning at 6:30 p.m. The concert starts at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free.

Friday, December 19th - The Rockcastle County High School Band Boosters in conjunction with the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame is presenting the first annual Christmas Around Town Holiday Tour. The tours, available at 4:00pm and 6:30pm, begin at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley and will include visits to homes and businesses around town. Each home or business will feature different activities—caroling, sweet treats, crafts and more. The tour ends at the Hall of Fame where the RCHS Brass Choir will be playing Christmas Music. Santa and his elves will also be on hand with treats for adults and children. The ticket price is \$10 for adults and only \$5.00 for children, with a paying adult. The ticket price also includes a tour of the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Renfro. Tickets are available now at the Hall of Fame and at RCHS. For more information call Robert Lawson at 256-1000 or Anita Nation at 256-4816.



Trumpeteer Will Walker



Bartionist Devin Davidson



Band Night at Pizza Hut.

Mt. Vernon Message

School News

Fourth Grade UNITE Club meets Friday, December 5 at 2:05.

Book Fair Family Night is scheduled for Friday, December 5 from 4:00 until 8:00. The book fair will begin Monday, December 8. Several activities have been planned. Grandparents day is scheduled for each grade level. At this time, grandparents are coming in to eat lunch with their grandchild(ren) and attend the book fair with them. The schedule is as follows:

- Monday, December 1, 2008—Kindergarten
 - Tuesday, December 2—1st Grade
 - Wednesday, December 3—2nd Grade
 - Thursday, December 4—3rd Grade
 - Friday, December 5—4th and 5th Grades
- Project Wisdom Readers for last week were:

- Monday: Noah Bolin
- Tuesday: Ariel Bradley

PTG News

Our PTG has a meeting scheduled for Thursday, De-

ember 11 at 3:30. Please make plans to attend.

FRC News

FRC 100% Club meets Thursday, December 11.

Our FRC Kenna's Kitchen Community Thanksgiving Meal was a huge success. 1375 meals were distributed to families during this annual event. Thanks to all who worked and donated food items. Without you, this would not be possible.

FRC Adult Computer classes are each Monday from 6:00 until 8:00.

FRC/CAPGED Classes are each Tuesday from 1:00 until 2:00.

Our quote for this week is: "A friend is one who always pays us the compliment of expecting the best from us."

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The Rockcastle County Middle School Student YMCA would like to thank Mr. Corey Craig and Citizens Bank for their continued support of the Kentucky Youth Assembly program. The bank recently presented each of the student delegates and advisors with a leather portfolio to use at KYA. Pictured with Mr. Craig are officers from the Student YMCA: Ashton Arvin and Charity Adams, Co-Presidents, and Samantha Payne, Chaplain. These students are among sixty-one from RCMS who attended this year's KYA in Louisville and Frankfort.

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Notice is hereby given that Ernie Lee Bowling, P.O. Box 269, Brodhead, Ky. 40409 has been appointed executor of the estate of Loretta Elizabeth Bowling on the 19th day of November, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them according to law to the said Ernie Lee Bowling on or before May 20, 2009 at 11 a.m. 2x3

Notice is hereby given that Teresa M. Mize, 348 Schoolhouse Hill Rd., Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 has been appointed Executrix of the estate of Ronnie L. Mize on the 10th day of November, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them according to law, to the said Teresa M. Mize or to Hon. John D. Ford, Coffey & Ford, PSC, 45 East Main St., PO Box 247, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 on or before May 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. 1x3

Notice is hereby given that James D. Harris, 754 Tar Kiln Road, Brodhead, Ky. 40409 has been appointed administrator of the estate of Acree Harris, Jr. on the 26th day of November, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said James D. Harris or to Hon. John D. Ford, 45 East Main St., P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before May 27, 2009 at 11 a.m. 3x3

Notice is hereby given that Rodney Dale Lewis has filed a Final Settlement of his accounts as Administrator of the estate of Phyllis Ann Lewis, deceased. A hearing on said settlement will be held Dec. 22, 2008 at 11 a.m. Any exceptions to said settlement must be filed before said date. 3x1p

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Volume 123 • Number 4

.50 per copy - Thursday, December 11, 2008



Brodhead Fire Chief Larry Taylor gave Santa, aka John Holbrook, a ride into town on Saturday during the annual Christmas parade in Brodhead. Santa Holbrook will also be visiting with children at Wendy's in Mt. Vernon beginning on Thursday (today) from 4-6 p.m. until December 23rd.



Longtime Brodhead resident and educator Jean Gentry was the Grand Marshal of Saturday's Christmas Parade in Brodhead. She got a lift from grandson, Zack Gentry.



At left, Rockcastle Middle School student Avery Bradshaw, chosen as Brodhead's Citizen of the Year during their annual homecoming in May, got a lift in one of Brodhead's fire trucks in Saturday's Christmas parade. Numerous other photos from the Brodhead and Mt. Vernon parades will appear in the *Signal's* Christmas issue.

Front page photos by Richard Anderkin

Former President David Ballinger takes over

Ponder resigns as President of ERWA

By: Richard Anderkin

At Tuesday's regular monthly meeting of the Eastern Rockcastle Water Association (ERWA) President Dell Ponder resigned his position as president, but stayed on as a board member.

After a 7-1 vote, board member and former president David Ballinger was elected to serve the remainder of Ponder's term, which runs through September of 2009.

Board member June Whittler was the only no vote of the board.

Ponder told the crowd that association board meetings had begun to make him "nervous" and that he had other personal reasons for stepping down as president. Ponder said he had served as president for seven or eight years.

Before Ponder's resignation, the board voted to begin training meetings for board members through the Kentucky Rural Water Association.

Rural Water Association President Gary Larrimore, who was present at the meeting, told the board it take several training meetings to go over all of the material board members need to cover and that the meetings would not be open to the public, but only to board members.

All eight board members voted to begin the training sessions as soon as dates could be worked out with Larrimore.

In other business, a motion by Whittler that "ERWA staff be directed from this point forward not to hire their family members, family members of the ERWA board or ERWA board members" failed for lack of a second.

ERWA Manager Randy Corry told the board that he felt the reason for Whittler's motion was because he had hired his son, Ben and John Roderfer, on a contract basis, to help him lay water lines because the two "knew what they were doing."

and both were hired on a contract basis.

Corry also told the board that he would abide by any motions they passed concerning hiring policies.

No motions at all were passed concerning personnel at Tuesday morning's meeting.

Corry also requested that the board allow Kentucky Rural Water Association to monitor and oversee every aspect of the operations of Eastern Rockcastle Water Association in an effort to make sure everything was being done properly. Corry request passed unanimously.

The general manager also told Whittler's husband, Elmer, who was in attendance with a crowd of about 40, that he was tired of being harrassed by him (Whittler) and that he was considering taking legal action against him if the harrassment didn't stop.

(Cont. to A14)

Fiscal Court will participate in Rocket Docket program

Much of Tuesday's regular meeting of the Rockcastle Fiscal Court was spent on a presentation by Asst. Commonwealth Attorney Jeremy Bartley for a program called "Rocket Docket."

The program, in essence, moves those charged with a crime through the justice system more quickly thus freeing up more beds in the Rockcastle Detention Center, for state prisoners.

Bartley said the program would be set up in conjunction with County Attorney Billy Reynolds' office, Jailer James Miller and, of course, the Fiscal Court.

The program originally began in Jefferson County when officials there began to look at the "lag time" between when an arrest is made and sentencing.

Bartley told the court that there was at least 90 days before those arrested are finally sentenced and become "state" prisoners at which point the jail would begin collecting \$31.34 per day from the state for their upkeper.

Bartley told the court that the Rocket Docket would not change the way his or Reynolds' office prosecutes crime. "If a defendant needs to

go to jail they will go to jail. If they deserve probation, they will get probation. We will essentially be cutting out the middle man (the grand jury)."

Reynolds emphasized to the court that, as always, his and Bartley's concern would be to conduct cases in the "fairest way that protects the public in the most economical way."

Hardin County, which recently instituted the program, at a cost of \$100,000 to their general fund, reportedly saw a reduction of \$530,000 in expenses to their jail system - a savings of \$430,000 to the county.

The Rocket Docket program will cost the fiscal court \$15,000 a year as a supplement to Bartley's salary. Bartley will be in Rockcastle at least once

(Cont. to A14)

Brodhead water line project almost finished

A \$832,000 water project in Brodhead is nearing completion.

At Monday night's regular monthly meeting, Mayor Walter Cash and council members, Larry Taylor, Ronnie Cash and Carlos Cash, discussed the project at length, agreeing new water lines to some 65 customers were 85 percent complete.

The council also said that the foundation of a new 200,000 water tank had already been poured and that construction of the tank should begin next week.

The new water tank is being built on Big Sinks Road and will replace the old tank on Water Tank Hill.

Some of the lines being replaced by the water line improvement project date back to 1939.

City Clerk Becky Bussell

reminded the council that a boil water advisory for customers along Hwy. 1505, beginning at the junction of Hwy. 150, to the end of Hwy. 150 and all streets or roads that junction with 1505 is still in effect and will remain in effect, until the new water lines and tank are completed.

The council also discussed needed work at the sewer plant, which will total between \$8,400 and \$10,000 for a cat walk over the surge tanks. The council agreed to do the project as soon as the city was financially able.

The council also agreed to lock water meters, which were in place at unoccupied residences.

Council member Ronnie Cash also commended everyone responsible for the Christmas lights in Brodhead for a job well done.

Alleged bootleggers arrested

An Orlando man is being held in the Rockcastle Detention Center, after being arrested last Wednesday night by Rockcastle Deputy Sheriffs on bootlegging charges.

Deputy Sheriff Jason Kirby said he arrested Charlie Page, 72, at his residence at 1756 Big Cave Road, around midnight last Wednesday, after two other undercover deputies bought beer and whiskey from him and his wife, Dorothy, 48.

Kirby said the sheriff's office had received several complaints about the Pages and that when the two deputies went to

the Page home they purchased a half case of beer and a fifth of whiskey for \$30.

Kirby said, when police returned with a search warrant, they found 1,868 cans of beer, which the Pages were selling for \$1.25 each and 200 bottles of whiskey, which ranged in price from \$6 for a half pint upwards.

Besides the beer and whiskey, police also confiscated \$1,150 in cash.

Kirby said that when police attempted to arrest Page on charges of illegal sale and possession of alcohol in a dry ter-

ritory, first offense, Charlie Page resisted arrest and assaulted a police officer.

Besides being charged with illegal sale and illegal possession of alcohol in a dry territory, Page was also charged with first degree assault on a police officer and resisting arrest.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Page for next Wednesday, December 17th. His bond was set at \$7,500 cash or property and, if he fills bond, he must wear an ankle moni-

(Cont. to A14)



Members of Valley Baptist Church at Copper Creek celebrated their 100 year anniversary on Sunday.

Valley Baptist Church celebrates 100 years

With an attendance of approximately 140 people and a offering of nearly \$7,000, members of Valley Baptist Church on Copper Creek Road celebrated their 100th Anniversary on Sunday.


The church was established on December 3, 1908 when a number of brothers and sisters in Christ met at the home of Ed Whitted for the purpose of organizing a church. The church was The United Baptist Church of Christ to be known as Valley Church of Copper Creek. W.H. Bryant was called to be the first pastor of the church.

The church first held services at the Whitted School House (Gum Grove). In July 1909 the church had enough money to start their own building.

In August, they decided the size of the new church would be 26 ft. by 36 ft. and, in February 1915, the congregation was still buying lumber from Burdett Lumber Company in Berea to build the church.

Finally, in September 1922, the church was ready. Bro. W.H. Bryant and Bro.

(Cont. to A6)



Rockcastle Memories

By David J. Griffin

The Vermont Country Store
When I was a little boy living with my parents on our small farm in Rockcastle County, my Dad always went to Uncle Jesse's grocery store to purchase a large box of fruit, candy, and nuts to celebrate the Christmas season.

That box always included tangerines, oranges, apples, chocolate-covered cream candy, peppermint canes, candy orange slices, assorted nuts, coconuts, and a large bag of assorted hard candy. For weeks I looked forward to this treat and anticipated his arrival with the delicious items in the "big old box." In my mind, it was almost as good as Santa coming.

Each year I am reminded of Daddy's seasonal purchase when I see bags of candy for sale in grocery stores. But it is nearly impossible to find many of those old-fashioned candies. Either they are no longer available, or local retail stores do not carry them.

To acquire those long lost treats today, you usually must go to the Vermont Country Store catalog. On the front cover, it simply states, "Purveyors of the practical and hard-to-find!"

I received my copy of the Christmas Edition of the catalog several days ago and immediately began to peruse the pages to see what long-gone treats I could find. My first selection was a bag of hard candy - including raspberry filled, black walnut chips, filled ovals, and rock candy. Each of these delicious treats was included in Daddy's annual box of "goodies."

My wife loves a brand of perfume that we can only locate at the Vermont Country Store

called Tweed. She tells me that it was her own first purchase of cologne as a young lady, so there is also a sentimental attachment to it. For years we could not find it anywhere.

One day we were sifting through the catalog, and she exclaimed, "Dave, here is a place where we can buy Tweed!" She usually requests another bottle as soon as her current one runs dry - fortunately for me, it is generally around Christmas-time or her birthday.

Long ago when my grandparents decorated their Christmas tree, Mommie Katie always used the liquid-filled Bubble Lights. Like most, I loved to turn off all other lights in the living room and watch the assorted colored bubbles as they added motion and sparkle to the decorations. The candles were filled with red, orange, blue, and green liquid.

Again, for years these lights seemed to have disappeared. But guess what? They can be purchased in the most recent catalog for \$24.95.

This year I decided to buy some stocking stuffers for my grandchildren from the Country Store. I selected juggling balls for my oldest grandson, Baylor. My granddaughter, Emory, will receive the Original Mr. Mutt magnetic wonder. This toy dog does interesting things when you wave the magnetic bone in his face. Finally, my youngest grandson, McLean, will be getting a spool tractor just like the ones that I made under the direction of my grandfather (Pop) when I was very young. It was made from a wooden thread spool with a long dowel rod and a rubber

(Cont. to A4)



Bloomfield outshines the stars
CSI: Bloomfield.

It doesn't require much investigating to find out what's behind making this tiny town in northeast Nelson County so aesthetically appealing.

Less than a mile from the gleaming historic brick buildings lining Main Street, behind white plank fencing and a locked black iron gate, sits the residence of Jerry and Linda Bruckheimer.

Movie buffs will recognize Jerry as one of the most successful producers of all time. Such major films as Armageddon, Black Hawk Down, Top Gun and the Beverly Hills Cops series have earned him fame and fortune.

In the world of television, he's the man behind CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, Cold Case, The Amazing Race, CSI: Miami and CSI: New York.

Linda, an author and Louisville native, may be less in the limelight than her famous husband, but since casting herself in the role of preservation activist, she's been a major star in the eyes of Mayor Ron Bobblett.

"She has been like a fairy godmother to us," Bobblett told a reporter for the New York Times.

Sitting behind his desk in the old L&N depot housing city hall and the town's one-man police department, the three-term mayor says the couple's purchase and renovation of five downtown buildings has served as a catalyst for other improvements.

With the help of state grants, the city has had a first class park complete with a lake since 1981. Funding through the state's Main Street Program allowed for renovation of several buildings, and currently a five million-dollar project is underway to improve sewer services. An appreciation for the rich history of the community is evident at every turn, including inside one of the two banks serving this town of 850 residents.

From floor to ceiling, a large room at the rear of Wilson & Muir Bank is packed with mementos from the old Bloomfield School.

The school building sitting high on a hill overlooking the town served as a high school until 1969 and as a junior high until 1996.

Well chronicled in words and photos, thanks to the efforts of two former cheerleaders, is the state tournament team of 1962, plus letter sweaters, school jackets, and trophies. Even the caged ceiling lights from the old gym are here, shining down on a hardwood floor with a large red 'B' in the center.

While the Bruckheimers maintain a low profile in the community, spending most of their time at their other home in California, business ties here

are strong.

Nettie Jarvis Antiques, named for Linda's great-grandmother, may be the biggest draw in town for tourists. Mrs. Bruckheimer's only involvement here is in the buying of items for the two-story building, according to clerk Donna Cornell.

Directly across the street is the Bruckheimer-owned Olde Bloomfield Meeting Hall, a former hardware store used in more recent days as a grocery and finally a youth center for the First Baptist Church.

Totally renovated and decorated in colorful antiques, it now serves as a family-style recreation center.

On Friday and Saturday nights, it's open to the public with four lanes of bowling at \$2 per game and a small roller rink (open from 7 to 11 pm) at \$2 per person. There are also video games, a pool table, hot dogs, and popcorn.

The facility can be rented by schools or churches. Wedding receptions are held on occasion.

"It really doesn't get used as much as it should," says Cornell.

City Clerk Jean Jury, a Nelson native currently living on a diary farm in nearby Fairfield, says she would like to see more people consider making Bloomfield their home in retirement.

"We have one of everything anyone would ever need; a doctor, dentist, chiropractor, drug store, liquor store, hardware store and funeral home," she says.

Jury considers the best part of living here is being able to enjoy a small town with moral values.

And the worst? "Everybody knows everybody and their business."

Apparently the nosiness doesn't extend to the town's most famous citizens.

Asked if celebrities were seen in town from time to time,

(Cont. to A4)

Points East

By Ike Adams

So I'm sitting here at my desk on this cold December evening doing the brrrrrr routine because the outside temperature is below freezing and me and Loretta are trying to adjust to a thermostat set at 68.

Back in the summer we thought 78 was smoldering and I "borrowed" those little funeral home fans from churches and even funeral parlors to waft about my face and shoo away the sweat. Now I'm ready to "borrow" some choir robes to fend off the chill because the Good Lord and all the rest of us knows that we should be cutting down on the heat bill so that we can do whatever we can to stop global warming.

All I can say is that 10 degrees makes one heck of a difference and I will never understand why. 68 would have been great back in the summer and I'm betting we'd have rejoiced. 68 in the winter is like 40 below. Go figure.

So, with that said, I'm betting any amount of money that my old pal, Byron Crawford, he of the most wisdom and longstanding common sense there at the Courier Journal could easily have explained this dilemma. But before I could even email Barn (that's how we pronounce his name out here in God's Country) (Baaa'm which is actually two syllables when you get used to it but one works better)

And Loretta says to me last

Thursday, or whenever it was, "Ike have you seen this!" And it was almost like a wail. And I said, "What the #\$%@@ has happened now???" Because we don't have any dogs ready to deliver pups or cats ready to deliver kittens and it's the wrong time of year for chickens to hatch. We don't even have a sow even though, in this economy, a good litter of pigs might keep us in meat until the recession is over. The real pigs could get fat real fast off the garbage that gets dumped alongside the road from the two legged dumb oinkers who frequent our road but that's another story altogether.

The real and devastating news is that Byron Crawford announced that last Thursday was his final column for the Courier Journal. And I'm thinking the end of the world can't be far off.

I can tell you for sure that the Courier Journal is soon going to be the down-town rag of Louisville because I know for sure that his column sold the paper to many hundreds of rural folks across this state and WE are simply going to stop buying the paper. Stop the presses. At least stop one because Byron was our connection to a paper that deserted us long ago and has now pulled back into its shell to the point that it will have a readership

(Cont. to A4)

How Stresses Affect Your Health

Presented by Dr. Kevin Rowe

No one likes stress. It makes us anxious and irritable, but does it also make us more likely to have illnesses? It seems so, and not just for the things that come to mind, such as ulcers and high blood pressure.

This is a field that is being studied extensively, and researchers are learning how stresses affect our lives, especially in regard to such serious illnesses as heart disease and cancer.

It has been known for a long time that increased stresses in life make it more likely for you to have infections in the following months. The most serious stresses are deaths in the family, divorce, and major stresses in life, such as a change in residence or jobs. Lesser stresses include financial worries, problems related to one's children, and interpersonal conflicts.

Statistics have shown that even what we consider to be good changes, such as a promotion with a raise in pay or moving to a nicer home, are great enough stresses that illnesses are more likely in the following year.

There is also evidence that stress significantly increases irregular heart beats, raises the blood pressure and even affects our ability to fight cancers. Some studies have shown that tumor cells grew faster in patients who were under stress--the defenses against tumor cells appeared to be decreased. Sudden death from irregular heart rhythms has been reported to be more common in people under psychological stress. Blood pressure readings are higher when a person is under stress, and there are even reports that diabetes and some forms of arthritis can be related to stress.

Just where this will end no one knows, but we do know that for a happy and healthy life it is good to keep stresses to a minimum.



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Obituaries



Ruby Lee McFerron

Ruby Lee McFerron, 82, of Mt. Vernon, died Thursday, December 4, 2008 at her residence. She was born in Rockcastle County on March 29, 1926 the daughter of Dave and Nannie Himes. She was a homemaker and a member of New Hope Baptist Church.

She is survived by: two sons, James Letcher (Diane) Croucher of Orlando and Darrell Keith (Annette) Croucher of Berea; three daughters, Anna Mae (Wendell) VanWinkle of Orlando, Fannie Louise (James) VanWinkle of Orlando and Minnie Pearl (Earl) Mullins of Livingston; and two sisters, Mary Lou Ballinger of Mt. Vernon and Virgie Ballinger of Orlando. Also surviving are 16 grandchildren, 30 great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by: three brothers, Ed, Buster and Franklin; two sisters, Toy Jane and Ethel; and one grandson, Josh.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 8, 2008 at New Hope Baptist Church by Bro. Jerry Ballinger. Burial followed in the Johnetta Cemetery.

Arrangements are by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were: Brian Baker, Raymond Baker, Roger Baker, Ronnie Baker, B. J. VanWinkle, Dowell VanWinkle and Ray VanWinkle.

Please visit www.DowellMartin.com to view online obituary.



Ana Ponder Rhodus

Ana Ponder Rhodus, 92, of Rockcastle County, died Monday, December 1, 2008 in Florence, KY. She was born on August 19, 1916 in Rockcastle County the daughter of the late W.H. and Flora Carpenter Ponder.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews including C.C. Ponder of Mt. Vernon. She was preceded in death by: seven brothers, Clayton, Keith, Lyman, Bill, Cline, Truman, and Brown Ponder; and two sisters, Una and Hallie.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 4, 2008 at the Allison & Rose Funeral Home in Talor Mill, KY. Burial was in Floral Hills Memorial Gardens in Taylor Mill. Officiating were members of the Family.

This obituary courtesy of Cox Funeral Home.

Jesse Ray Mills

Jesse Ray Mills, 63, of Richmond, died Sunday, November 23, 2008. He was born in Ayden, NC on December 10, 1944 the son of Johnny Bryant and Olivera Hoyd Mills. He had been a carpenter.

He is survived by: three children, Annette Caudell and Ray Mills, both of Richmond, and Yolanda Poynter of Livingston; and his ex-wife, Phyllis Mills of Mt. Vernon. Also surviving are five grandchildren.

There were no funeral services. Dowell & Martin Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Please visit www.dowellmartin.com to view online obituary.



Wiley Allen Goff

Wiley Allen Goff, 75, husband of Belva Cromer Goff, died Sunday, December 7th, 2008 at his residence. He was born on April 19th, 1933 in Somerset, a son of the late Hobert and Dorothy Owens Goff. He owned and operated Goff's Launderette for 40 years. His hobbies and interests were his family and grandchildren. On Nov. 18th, 1960 he was united in holy matrimony to Belva Cromer Goff and from that union came two children, Cheryl and Bruce.

Those left to cherish his memories include: his wife of 48 years, Belva Cromer Goff of Somerset; daughter, Cheryl (Jeff) Roberts of Somerset; son, Bruce (Sharon) Goff of Somerset; one brother, Guy Goff of Somerset; two sisters, Betty (Ray) Richards of Somerset and Helen (Phil) Hunt of Noblesville, IN; two sisters-in-law, Dot Goff of Russell Springs and Marie Goff of Brodhead; four grandchildren, Elizabeth Goff, April (Mark) Spears, Erica Goff and Adam Roberts, all of Somerset; and a host of nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by: three brothers, Jack Goff, Bill Goff and baby brother, Keith Goff; two sisters, Lorraine Hobbs and Norma "Tootsie" VanHoose; and a special nephew Jackie Goff.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 10th, 2008 at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals Chapel with Bro. Marvin Cromer officiating. Burial followed in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Casket bearers were: Joe Vanhook, Jason Goff, Greg Goff, Kevin Goff, Keith Goff, Chris Goff, Ray Cable and Mike Gooch.

Condolences to the family may be made to his online registry at www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com



Jo Ann Harper

Miss Jo Ann Harper, 70, of Hamilton, OH, and formerly of Mt. Vernon, died Saturday, December 6, 2008 at the Fort Hamilton Hospital. She was born on May 16, 1938 in Mt. Vernon the daughter of the late Othar and Grace Fredricks Harper. She enjoyed Church and people, and was a member of the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon.

Survivors are: one sister, Mrs. Betty Turnau of Hamilton, OH; several nieces and nephews; and several great nieces, and nephews. She was preceded in death by: two brothers, William and Paul Dean Harper; and three sisters, Margaret Barber, Juanita Sloan, and Marcella Glover.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at the Cox Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Raymond Offutt officiating. Burial was in Elmwood Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Tim Barber, Paul Harper, Danny McNew, Jeffery Payne, John Phillips and Mike Rostkowski.

View the complete obituary, sign the guest registry, or send condolences to the family online at www.coxfuneralhomeky.com

Subscribe to the Signal



Melva Ada Bingham

Melva Ada Bingham, 81, of Crab Orchard, died Sunday, November 30, 2008 at the Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital in Somerset. She was born in Rockcastle County on March 17, 1927 the daughter of George and Loretta McPherron McKinney. She was a member of Liberty Baptist Church. She was loved and will be deeply missed.

She is survived by: her daughter, Gloria (Leland) Payne of Vincennes, IN; one sister, Grace Price of Somerset; two grandchildren, Rebecca (Robert) Holtzclaw and Nadan (Melissa) Brown, all of Eubank; eight great grandchildren, Andrew Nicely, Tyler Thompson, Jessica Brown, Colton Brown, Devin Brown, Seth Thompson, Peyton Holtzclaw, and Lucas Brown; and four step-great grandchildren, Amanda, Austin, Ashleigh, and Robert Dakota Holtzclaw.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband of 55 years, Delbert Bingham; one infant daughter; one brother, William McKinney; and two sisters, Lola Todd and Edith Bingham.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at Liberty Baptist Church by Bros. Zandall Hasty and Ulanda Price. Burial was in the Liberty Church Cemetery.

Arrangements were by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were: Cecil Brown, Naden Brown, Randy Bumgardner, Rob Holtzclaw, Andrew Nicely, Leland Payne, Cleston Poynter, and Tyler Thompson.

Please visit www.DowellMartin.com to view online obituary.



Artie Lulabelle Kidwell

Artie Lulabelle Kidwell, 63, of Brodhead, died Saturday, December 6, 2008 at the Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center in Brodhead. She was born in Rockcastle County on January 13, 1945 the daughter of Roscoe Adkins and Helen Smith Madden

Adkins and was a homemaker and a member of the Holiness Faith.

She is survived by: her husband, Alfred Kidwell; two brothers; and eight sisters.

Graveside services were conducted Tuesday, December 9, 2008 the Laswell Cemetery at Orlando by Bro. Jack Weaver. There was no visitation.

Arrangements were by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

Essie Ann Payne

Essie Ann Payne, 93, of Somerset, died Sunday, December 7, 2008 at her home. She was born on February 17, 1915 in Rockcastle County the daughter of the late Elmer and Lucretia Rash Cromer. She was a retired seamstress, enjoyed gardening, quilting, cooking, and was a member of the Walnut Grove Church of Christ.

Survivors are: one son, Glen Payne of Mt.Orab, OH; one daughter, Mrs. Betty Payne of Somerset; one granddaughter she raised, Lori Capri Morgan of Crab Orchard; one brother, Jearl Cromer of Goshen, OH; two sisters, Mrs. Ina Bullock of Mt.Vernon and Mrs. Wanda Hood of Somerset; eight grandchildren; 20 great grandchildren; nine great great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Neal Payne; two sons, Wayne and Earl D. Payne; three brothers, Joe, Lester and Edd Cromer; and three sisters, Lina, Dessie and Lessie.

Funeral services will be held (today) Thursday December 11, 2008 at 3 p.m. at the Cox Funeral Home Chapel with Bros. Marvin Cromer and Arvil Baker officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery.

Pallbearers are: David Payne, Jamie Payne, Rick Thomas, Michael Chambers, Randy Goens, and Lucas Jacob.

View the complete obituary, sign the guest registry, or send condolences to the family online at www.coxfuneralhomeky.com

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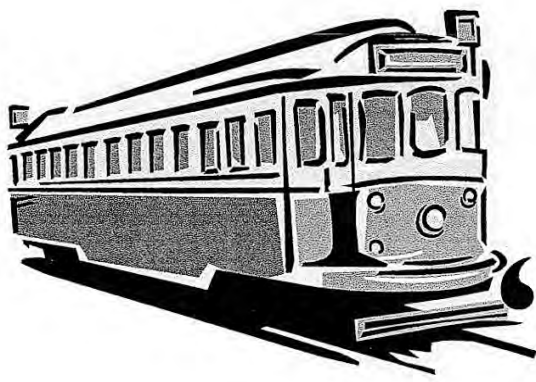
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Yards to Paradise

Wood Paves the Way

Using wood outside of the house is not a new concept. Commonly, porches, decks and fences are constructed of wood. Also, benches, arbors, maybe a gazebo are made of wood. Today, let's consider using wood in the yard beyond the deck or patio.

Wooden paths, boardwalks, and raised seating or entertaining areas not attached to the house are possibilities I'd like for us to explore. Maybe your mind can be expanded as to the uses of wood in the landscape.

Wooden paths, bridges, maybe roads and piers are both ancient and modern uses of wood. They really are not that complicated on residential scaled projects. For example, more than once I have been asked to design a bridge across a small stream or dry creek in a

backyard—simple ones can be done in a day or two.

Paths, bridges, observation platforms or towers built of wood can last at least 20 years, often longer. The point that needs emphasis, though, is that the timber should be cedar, redwood, locust, Osage orange, or some other very durable wood, or be "pressure treated" with a copper-containing solution as preservative.

Pressure treated lumber is available at most building supply stores. Wood actually in contact with wet soil should probably be of the grade treated with a .4% copper solution instead of the standard .25% (ask your lumber store salesperson).

Wood paths and roads are one of the oldest forms of paving. Anciently, the Japanese used wooden paths. In early America, logs were split to

form "corduroy" roads for the stagecoaches to travel successfully over soft muddy sections of the way.

Long raised paths can be somewhat more expensive than concrete or stone paths. However, you'll have a very special path if you build all or part from wood. (You know, like in the monopoly game, "Boardwalk" is a place of distinction!)

Besides wooden paths, extending from a dock or landing, there are bridges. They may be raised observation "towers" along or at the end of a "boardwalk". Perhaps a pier into a waterfeature or lake. How about a tree house? Or a raised deck surrounding a large shade tree. Why don't you do a little dreaming as to where a wooden path might lead!

I would submit to you that wooden paths are as easy as concrete or stone ones and are very durable if built well.

And wood is more interesting and user friendly than concrete walks, pebble paths or mortared stone walkways.

Consider a foundation of sound used RR crossties to keep new wood off the ground. Alternatively, concrete piers can be used for your treated posts and larger support timbers.

The cost may be greater, but don't let the project scare you. Boardwalks can set your place apart from the crowd.

If you've a stream, wetland, or a valley to cross, consider paving the way with wood for a distinctive look. The scenery will likely be more lovely from the raised vantage point as well.

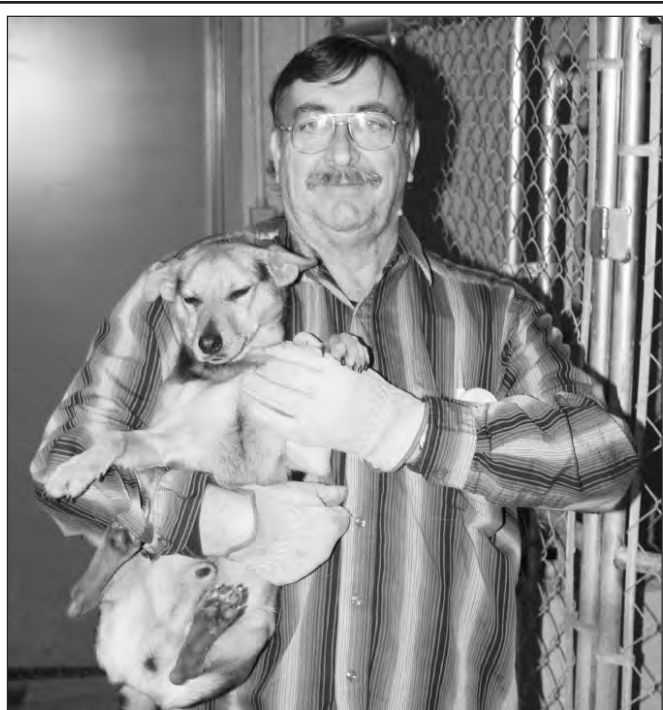
The author is a landscaper. Visit www.rockcastles.com or email max@rockcastles.com

City of Livingston's Community Christmas Dinner is Sunday

The City of Livingston will host their annual Community Christmas Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 14th in the Livingston Gym, Preston Parrett Center. Mayor J.C. Griffin and Commissioners of the City of Livingston welcome all to attend. Please bring a covered dish.

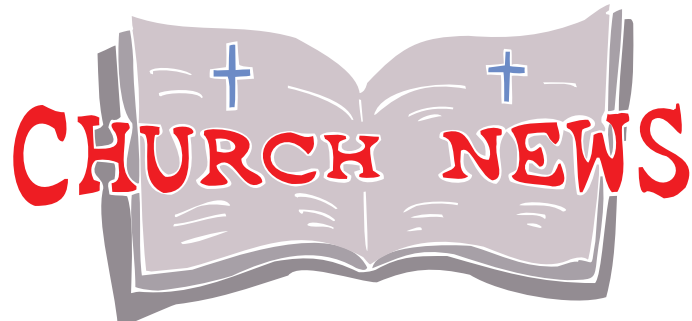


The American Legion Post 71 raffled off a 50cc Scooter at the Cruisin' in the Valley Car Show on November 1st and the winner was Karen Tate of Frankfort, shown above on scooter. Post Commander Jerry Payne presented the scooter to Ms. Tate at the Car Show. Thanks to all who helped support the American Legion.



Pets make great Christmas Gifts..

Some dogs and a few pups are up for adoption at the Rockcastle Animal Shelter on Deep Hollow Road, off Old Sigmon Road, at Roundstone. Above, Animal Shelter Director James Kidwell shows off a very friendly mixed breed pup, which is one of many animals now up for adoption at the shelter. The adoption fee is \$20 and one of the pups at the shelter would make a great Christmas gift, plus you would be saving an animal's life. The Animals Shelter is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information call (606) 256-1833.



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Contact Bro. Jerry Owens for transportation at 606-256-3075.

Candlelight Singing

There will be a Candlelight Christmas Singing at Rose Hill

Church on Sunday, Dec. 14th at 6 p.m. Pastor Bobby Barnett and congregation welcome everyone.

1 Voice on TV

1 Voice from Brodhead will be singing on The Hour of Harvest with host Margaret Drake on WLJC TV in Beattyville on Saturday night, December 13, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. During that time, anyone who needs prayer can call 606-464-3600.

Live Nativity

Skaggs Creek Baptist Church's Live Nativity Scene will be shown December 12th and 13th from 7 to 9 p.m. Sandwiches and hot chocolate will be served inside the church.

The congregation welcomes everyone to come out and enjoy this event.



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“Valley Baptist”

(Cont. from front)

N.T. Gibbons preached the Dedication Sermon in October of 1922.

In December of 1939, the congregation agreed to change the name of the church to the Missionary Baptist Church of Christ, known as Valley.

The church borrowed Deacons from New Hope Church for communions. In June of 1945, Bro. Leonard Harris was ordained the first Deacon of the church. Later other Deacons ordained were: Bro. Edd Jones,

Bro. Denton Sears, Bro. Oscar Chasteen, Bro. Robert Jones, Bro. Bobby Turner, Bro. Roger Durham, Bro. Wilbur Watkins, Bro. Charlie Isaacs, Bro. William Barnett and Bro. Mike McFerron.

In October 1948, electric lights were added and a piano purchased. In the early days of the church, the windows were painted white to keep people focused on the sermons inside and to keep people from peeping in from the outside.

Sometime in the 1950s, it is noted in the minutes, paint remover was purchased to remove

the paint from the windows. In July, 1959, Bro. Nelson Jones built a solid foundation under the church. The building project of the basement and Sunday School rooms were also started in 1959.

In December 1961, a coal furnace was installed in the basement and that replaced the only source of heat the Church had known, an old wood and coal stove.

Valley Church's pastors over the past 100 years : W.H. Bryant, Bro. J.W. Lambert, Bro. Sheron Overlay, Bro. E.T. Phelps, Bro. N.T. Gibbons, Bro.

James Harchins, Bro. B.H. Jennings, Bro. Hays Smith, Bro. Logan Ponder, Bro. Roscoe Hinkle, Bro. W.E. Sears, Bro. Walter Robinson, Bro. Jessie Matlock, Bro. Geroge Lay, Bro. J. Smothers, Bro. Joe McElroy, Bro. Elby Frost, Bro. Craig Holman, Bro. Fred Wilson, Bro. Denton Sears, Bro. William Durham, Bro. Floyd Bingham, Bro. Silas New, Bro. Ira Dean, Bro. Homer Lamb, Bro. Arnold Pingleton, Bro. Tom Crawford, Bro. Rick Everest, Bro. Wayne Henson, Bro. Donald Smith, Bro. David Sargent, Bro. Greg Lakes and the present pastor, Bro. Tony Shelton.

The Church has had 33 different pastors one of which pastored three times and seven who pastored two times each.

Thru the years no matter the hardships, there were some especially dedicated Sisters that made sure the church was kept open to ensure there was a place to worship in our small community.

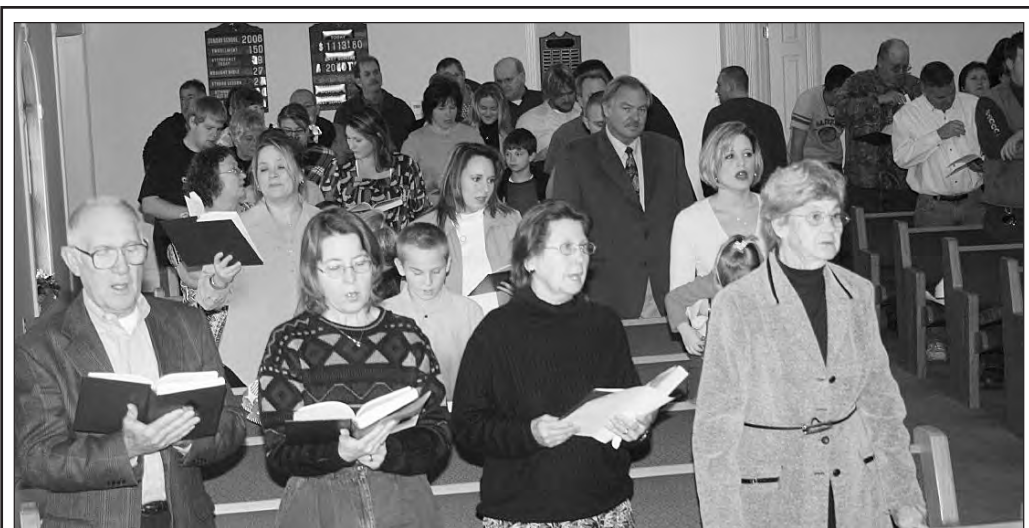
These Sisters were: Sister Susie Kidwell, Sister LaBelle Harris and Sister Elizabeth

Childs, who have all gone on to meet the Lord.

In March of 2003, plans were discussed for a new sanctuary.

In January of 2004, it was under roof. In July 2004, a Dedi-

(Cont. to A8)



Valley Baptist Church on Copper Creek Road celebrated their 100th anniversary on Sunday with an attendance of approximately 140 people and an offering of nearly \$7,000. Some of those in attendance are shown from back to front: Nathaniel Rada, Sidney Pingleton, Charles Pingleton, John and Angie Sensabaugh, Charles Leger and Bill Alexander, Susan, Albert and Brenda Pingleton, Tasha and Shane Broaddus, Craig Evans, Lisa Morgan, Shana McFerron, Austin Neeley, Tiffany Neeley, William Barnett, Lisa Wallis, Gretta Barnett and Dorothy Chasteen.



Those in attendance in the men's Sunday School class at Valley Baptist Church on Sunday morning are shown above, front row, from left: William Barnett, Jesse Teabo and Chris Turner. Back row, from left: Wilbur McGuire, Craig Evans, Gerald Pingleton and Bill Turner. Valley Baptist Church, which is located on Copper Creek Road, was established on December 3rd of 1908. Sunday, church members celebrated the 100th anniversary of the church. (Valley Baptist Church photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Some of those in attendance in the Ladies' Sunday School Class at Valley Baptist Church on Sunday morning were, front row, from left: Helen McGuire and Pauline McGuire. Second row: Connie Taylor, Florence McHone and Jeanette Morgan. Back row: Sheila Thacker, Morgan Thacker and Paula Bullock. Valley Baptist, which is located on Copper Creek Road, celebrated their 100th anniversary on Sunday morning.



Some of those in attendance in Ladies' Class at Valley Baptist Church are shown above, front row, from left: Gretta Barnett, Dorothy Chasteen and Janet Vaughn. Second row, from left are: Renee Turner, Tammy Brock, holding, Isaac Turner, Shana McFerron and Tanya Teabo.



Valley Baptist Church Pastor Tony Shelton has been the pastor at the church for approximately one year. On Sunday, Shelton helped the congregation celebrate their 100th year.

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Paula and Taylor Bullock look over photos taken at Valley Baptist Church over the years. Valley Baptist celebrated their 100th anniversary on Sunday.



Nikki Brogan, back left, and Missy Baker, back right, taught youngsters, Azalynn McFerron and Daniel Wilson at Valley Baptist Church on Sunday morning.



Children in John David Wilson's Sunday School class at Valley Baptist Church on Sunday were, from left: Taylor Bullock, Alex Turner, Jacqueline Thacker and Eric Bullock.



Valley Baptist Church member Amber Thacker sang two special songs during worship services on Sunday morning.



Nerissa Baker taught the Ladies' Sunday School class at Valley Baptist Church on Sunday morning.



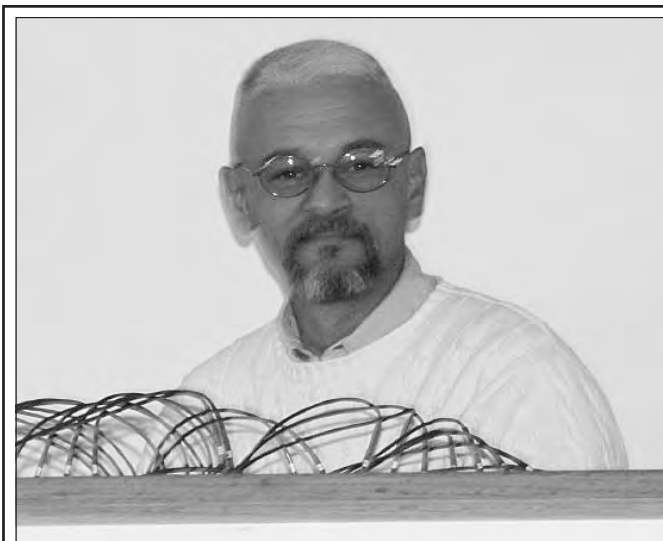
Tanya Teabo and Tyler Vaughn, who helped with Sunday's special video presentation at Valley Baptist, discuss the song service, before the worship service at Valley Baptist Church.



Valley Baptist Church Pastor Tony Shelton, right, talked with Bill Alexander, before worship services on Sunday morning.



Greene Lakes, right, passed out church bulletins on Sunday at Valley Baptist Church to, Robert Nickerson, left and Joseph Leger, center.



Valley Baptist Church member Ken Silva took care of the audio and video duties during church services at Valley Baptist Church on Sunday.

Valley Baptist photos by: Richard Anderkin



Valley Baptist Church member Charles Leger shakes hands with Alecia Leger, left and Ina Leger, right, before Sunday's worship service.



Dee Baker, left and Darlene Reynolds, talked before worship services at Valley Baptist Church, on Copper Creek Road Sunday morning.



Jailyn Baker, back left, and Harley Nicely taught Sunday School to Sara Beth Clements, Katie Shelton and Eliana Baker on Sunday morning at Valley Baptist Church, where members were celebrating their 100th Anniversary.



Phyllis Pingleton, left, talked with Donna Lakes, right, before Worship Services at Valley Baptist Church on Sunday. Mrs. Lakes, who is the mother of former pastor Greg Lakes, now a missionary, is suffering from cancer.



Dana Shelton, wife of Valley Baptist Pastor Tony Shelton was busy Sunday morning, helping to prepare for the church's dinner, after worship services. Valley Baptist celebrated their 100th anniversary on Sunday morning.



Shawna Barrett, Andy Doan and Kager Doan, helped a guest sing the Foundation Song at Sunday's Worship Service at Valley Baptist Church.



Members of one Sunday School Class at Valley Baptist Church who were in attendance on Sunday morning are shown above, from left: Austin Teabo, Timber Shelton, Mykala McFerron, Mike McFerron, Ray Owens and little Isaiah Owens. Mike McFerron was the teacher.



Sydney Owens and Angel Turner, left, and Destiny Brogan and Kaylee Brock, right, gathered around their Sunday School teacher, Melissa Wilson, on Sunday morning at Valley Baptist Church.

“Valley Baptist”
(Cont. from A6)

tion Service was held in the new sanctuary. Bro. Greg Lakes preached the Dedication Sermon.

God has truly Blessed Valley Church for the past 100 years.

Besides Pastor Shelton, Troy Clark serves as Sunday School Superintendent, the Church Clerk and piano player is Janet

Vaughn, the church Treasurer is John David Wilson, Mike McFerron is the song leader and youth leaders are Lois Wilson and Renee Turner, among others.

All are invited to attend services which are Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m. and Sunday evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening Services are at 7 p.m.

For more information call: (859) 925-2262, (606) 758-8162 or (606) 308-1496.

Gear Up

Encourage rigorous classes and hard work

College can seem like a looming goal on the distant horizon, but once a student reaches middle school it's time to realize there are specific steps to take if you want to get into college. The KnowHow2Go campaign and website address (www.knowhow2goky.org) helps students and parents learn about those steps. This month we're looking at the second step—push yourself to work hard.

Why does working hard matter? Every institution of higher education has standards students must meet to be admitted—standards relating to grade point average and test scores. If a student doesn't meet those standards, he or she can be denied admission. If a student barely meets those standards, the school might require the student to take basic courses that help him or her learn the skills needed before beginning the true college-level courses that earn them credit hours toward graduation. Taking those extra classes can mean students will be in college longer than their peers or will need to take more hours of classes per semester than others.

Students who want to begin college in college level courses that will move them closer to their career goal need to prepare by taking rigorous courses in high school and doing the hard work they require. Scott Habeeb, assistant principal for curriculum and instruction at Salem High School in Virginia, consultant with Solutions, Etc. and recent speaker to local educators through the GEAR UP program says it's important to encourage students to do the hard work. "We have to show them why that class is going to help them with something," he says. Telling a student to take something simply because it's required isn't enough.

Parents and students alike should understand what classes are important to take and why, what the high school gradua-

tion and college admission standards are, and what they need to be doing every year of school to prepare. Habeeb encourages schools to arrange conferences with students and parents in which school personnel can share that information.

Habeeb also encourages schools to only offer the more rigorous courses to students. "Why would we offer a class we don't think a student should take?" he asks.

Habeeb also believes it's important to look at student test scores to determine where their strengths are. For example, if a student takes a national standardized test and scores in the 85th percentile in history, that student obviously has talent in history. Therefore, Habeeb says, he or she can sign up for a higher level history class. If the high school doesn't teach it, perhaps a nearby college is offering courses to high school students or the students can access it through Kentucky's Virtual High School program. Once the student succeeds in one area, he or she is more likely to be interested in signing up for other more difficult classes.

Habeeb also emphasizes the need for parents to be closely involved in the child's educational process. He uses his own family to exemplify why it's important to "tighten the reins" on older students rather than loosening them.

If his children who are in the first or fifth grades make a bad decision, he says, it has little long-lasting impact on his or her life. If, however, his daughter in the ninth grade decides not to study for a test or do her homework, her decision can have long-lasting repercussions because her grades go on her record for colleges and future employers to see.

"Please don't let up," Habeeb urges parents. Even though older kids put more pressure on their parents to give them their independence, when it comes to their education Habeeb says parents need to be more vigilant than ever in encouraging their children to sign up for the right classes and to work hard. If they do that, then when college is no longer on

the horizon, but is the true next step, the student will be prepared.

For more information contact: Terry Hosler, Special Projects Coordinator, Berea College GEAR UP (phone 859-985-3855 or email (terry_hosler@berea.edu)



Happy Sweet 16th Birthday
We love you - Mom & Donnie



Ralph Andrew Powell, Jr. turned 3 years old on October 17, 2008. He received many nice gifts and would like to thank everyone for his gifts and for coming to his party. He is the son of Ralph and Brittney Powell of Livingston. He is the grandson of Ralph and Lyla Bell Powell and Kim Reynolds and the late Randall Reynolds. He is the great grandson of Charlene Reynolds and the late Lin Reynolds, Florence Powell and the late Edd Powell, Dale Brummett and the late Eula Brummett and the late Richard Mullins and the late Frances Mullins.

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Lady Rockets lose two straight in OT

After defeating Wayne County in their season opener, the RCHS Lady Rockets lost their next two in overtime.

In their home opener on Friday against the Lincoln County Lady Patriots, the Lady Rockets got out to an 11-2 lead but couldn't hold on against the visiting team, losing in overtime 50-43.

The Lady Rockets were led in scoring by Mary Saylor with 10, Angie Lawrence and Sara Hammond each had 8, Jackie Alexander scored 7, Ashley Robinson 6, Kristen Abney and Sasha Bullock 2 each. Hammond led the team in rebounding with 13 and was credited with four assists.

The next day, the Lady Rockets traveled to Northern Kentucky to take on a good Simon Kenton team and again

they lost in overtime, 58-52.

Alexander had her best scoring output as a Lady Rocket varsity player, putting up 27 to lead her team. Saylor had 9, Robinson, 6, Katy Mattingly, 4 and Hammond and Nicole Locklear each had 2.

In both games, the Lady Rockets scored only two points in overtime.

"We are still waiting on somebody to get some guts and step up when this team needs it the most and we haven't found that yet," said head coach Chrysti Noble. "It will be impossible for us to be really successful until that happens," she said.

The Lady Rockets return to action on Friday night when they host Madison Southern. Game time is 7:30 p.m.



Lady Rocket senior Mary Saylor puts in two of her 10 points against Lincoln County on Friday night.



Lady Rocket sophomore center Sara Hammond puts up a jump shot in her team's game with Lincoln County on Friday night. Hammond had 8 points in the overtime loss.

7th and 8th grade teams beat Casey

The Rockcastle Middle School boys' basketball team was in action last Thursday as they faced the Casey County Rebels.

Overall, the Rockets went 2-1 with both the 7th and 8th grade teams winning and only the 6th grade team coming up short.

Led in scoring by Blake Mullins with 8, the 6th grade team fell 29-16. Dakota Hasty added 4, Sam Pensol and Jordon McGuire had 2 each and Stephen Rector scored 1.

The 7th grade team fared better with a 41-33 victory and was led in scoring by Corey McPhetridge, who had 21 and

Tyler Harper with 10.

Andrew Burton and Jarred Lakes had four each and John Hughes got two.

The 8th grade team started their game fast, jumping out to an early 11-2 lead in the first couple of minutes.

They would go on to pick up their first win of the season beating Casey County 46-35. They were led in scoring by Blake Jones who had 21 points.

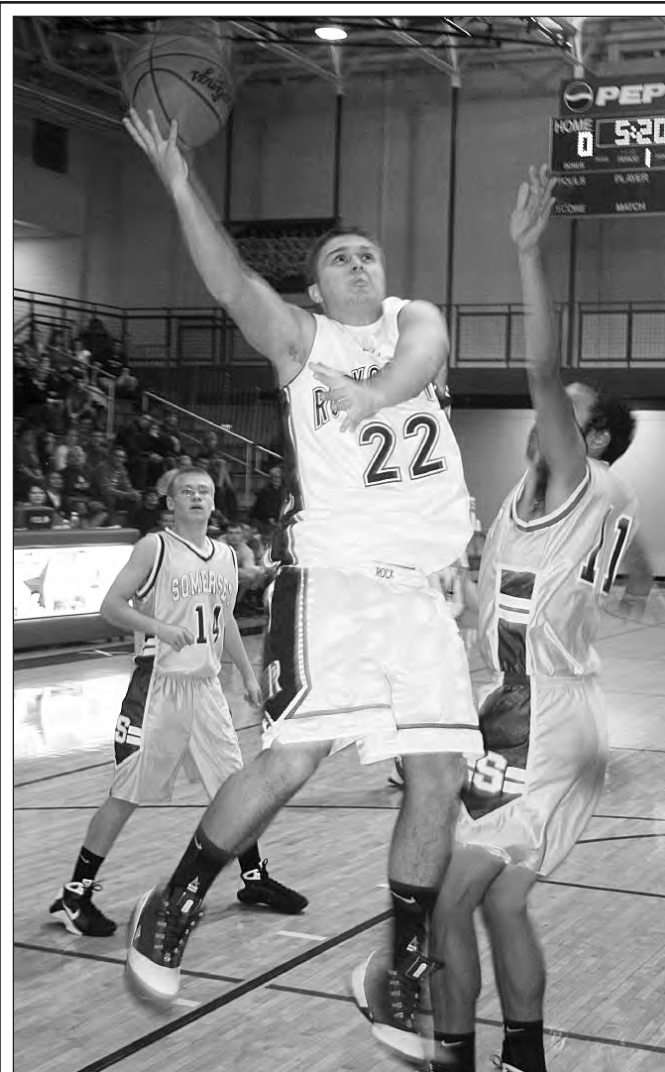
Ashton Arvin, Eli Haddix and Ben Allen all had 6 points each, Bryson Amyx got 4 and Tyler Smith added 2 in the Rocket's win. The 8th grade team is now 1-7 on the year.



Rocket junior Matt Bullens prepares to go up for a shot against Lincoln County in the Rocket's home opener. Bullens had 10 points in the 70-58 loss. The Rockets host Boyle County on Friday night at 6 p.m. before a 7:30 p.m. contest between the girls and Madison Southern.



Lady Rocket senior Ashley Robinson puts up a shot against Lincoln County on Friday night. Robinson had six points in the Lady Rocket's 50-43 overtime loss. The Lady Rockets host Madison Southern on Friday night at 7:30 p.m.



Rocket sophomore Travis Carpenter goes for two of his 19 points against Somerset on Saturday. The Junior Varsity won 51-42 and are 2-1 on the season.

**Lady Rocket
Intramural Night
Friday December 12, 2008**

**RCHS Lady Rockets vs.
Madison Southern (7:30 tip-off)**

Participants of the Lady Rocket Intramural Basketball Program and their coaches will be recognized at halftime of the girls' game vs. Madison Southern.

Participants that wear their intramural game jersey will be admitted FREE.

6:00 Game 1- RCHS Boys vs. Boyle County

Boys lose to Lincoln, beat Barbourville

The RCHS Rockets are 1-2 on the season after beating Barbourville on Tuesday night, 94-52 and losing to Lincoln County last Friday night, 70-58.

All Rocket varsity players saw action on Tuesday night, with 13 of them getting into the scoring column.

Jamie Todd led all scorers with 19, followed by Spencer Mullins who scored 16. Bryan Clontz got 13, Derek Thacker 8, Matt Lunsford 7, Matt Bullens and Travis Carpenter, 6 each, Jared Smith, Dustin Bishop and Brandon Jones, 4 each, Grant Burdette 3 and Kyle Riddle 2.

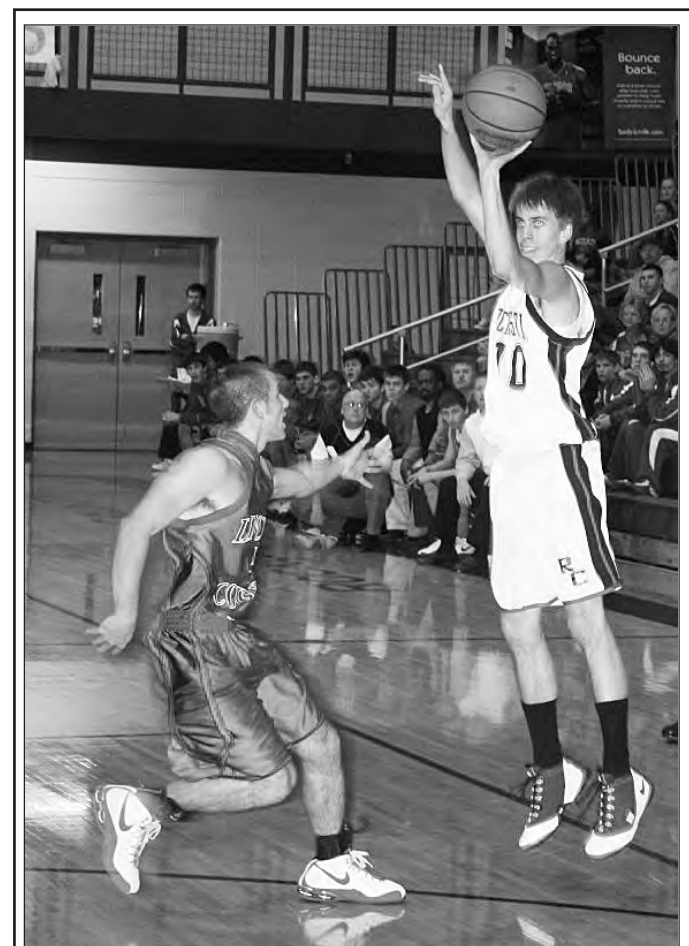
Last Friday night, the Rockets lost to Lincoln County, the team who was ranked 1st in the 12th region in pre-season polls,

70-58, after committing 19 turnovers in the first half.

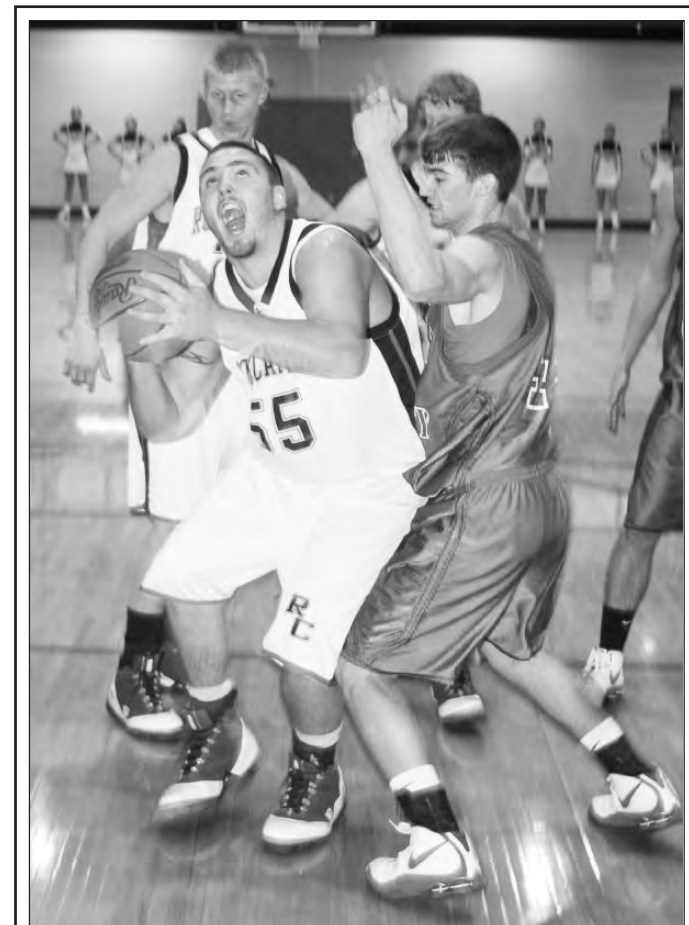
Junior center Derek Thacker, who played an excellent game, led his team in scoring with 21 points and in rebounding with 12. Todd and Bullens got 10 each, Clontz 7 and Mullins and Smith each had 5.

"We are still trying to get comfortable playing as a team and only practice and games will help that situation," said head coach Benny Blanton. "We should be a much better team in a couple of weeks than we are right now," he added.

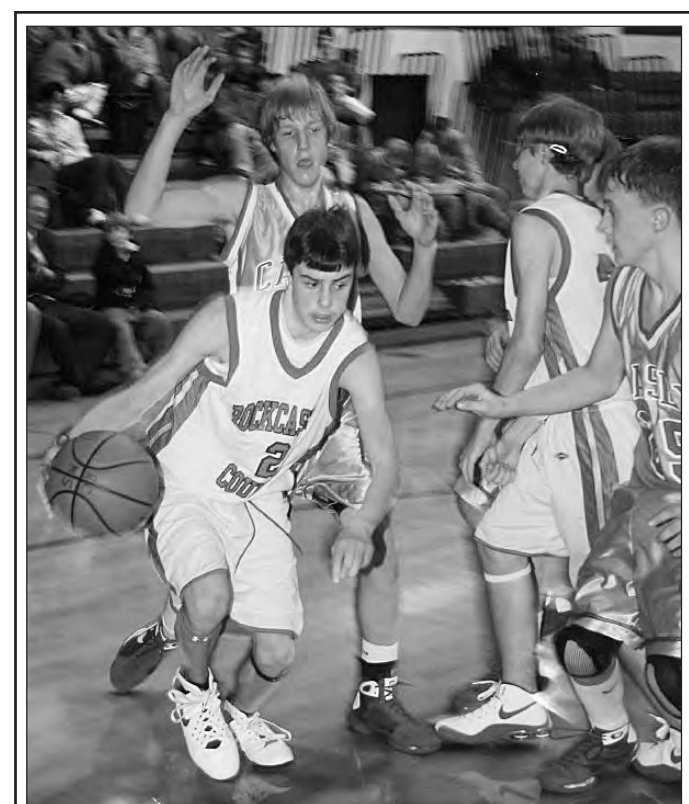
The Rockets return to action on Friday night when they host Boyle County at 6 p.m., before the Lady Rockets take on Madison Southern at 7:30 p.m.



Rocket Dustin Reynolds puts up a jump shot against Lincoln County on Friday night. The Rockets lost to Lincoln 70-58, but bounced back to beat Barbourville on Tuesday night 94-52.



Rocket junior Derek Thacker goes up for two of his team high 21 points against Lincoln County on Friday night. In the background is senior Spencer Mullins who had five points on Friday night. Mullins had 16 against Barbourville on Tuesday night and Thacker had 8 in the Rockets 94-52 win. (RCHS sports photos by: Richard Anderkin).



RCMS 7th grader Corey McPhetridge drives to the basket in his team's 41-33 win over Casey County. McPhetridge scored 21 points in the win.



Lady Rocket freshman Bree Tillery goes up for two points in her team's 37-34 win over Somerset on Saturday. The freshmen are 2-0 on the season.

JV boys win two, lose one

The RCHS junior varsity basketball team played against West Jessamine last week and lost 58-25.

The Rockets leading scorers were Dustin Bishop, Travis Carpenter and Brandon Burdette, all with 5 each, Matt Lunsford and Josh McKinney got 4 each and Derrick Pittman scored 2.

The Rocket Junior Varsity squad won their game against Somerset on Saturday, 51-42, and were led in scoring by Travis Carpenter who had 19.

Matt Lunsford also had a good game with 12, Derrick Pittman got 7, Josh McKinney 5, Grant Burdette and John Lawson scored 4 each and Brandon Burdette 1.

On Tuesday night, the JV defeated Barbourville, 60-54.

Travis Carpenter led his team in scoring with 22, Grant Burdette got 9, Matt Lunsford 8, Dylan Thacker scored 5, Brandon Jones and Kyle Riddle had 4 each, Brandon Burdette 3 and Josh McKinney, John

Lawson and Derrick Pittman each scored 2.

The JV team is now 2-1 on the season.

Lady Rocket JV team is now 2-1

The RCHS girls' JV team opened their season with a 39-25 loss to Somerset.

The team was led in scoring by Kristen Abney who had 6.

Angie Lawrence added 5, Kadie Cobb 4, Shanlee Burton, Ella McQueary, Cheyenne Hensley and Megan Perkins all got 2 each and Casey Sturgill scored 1.

The girls played Highlands on the road on Saturday and won 38-32.

Kristen Abney led the team in scoring with 15, Cheyenne Hensley and 8th grader Michaela Hunter had 5 each, Sydney Arvin and Kadi Cobb added 4 each, Shanlee Burton got 3 and Ella McQueary 2. The JV squad is now 1-1 on the year.



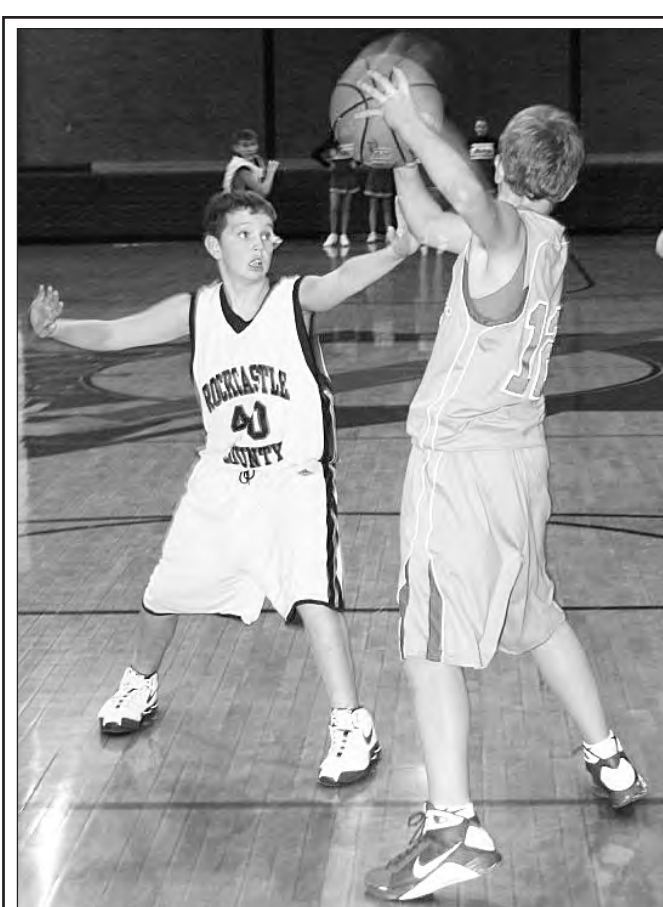
Rocket freshman Ben Lake goes for two of his 10 points against Somerset on Saturday. The Rocket freshmen lost 39-31.



RCMS 6th grader Stephen Rector goes up for two against Casey County on Thursday night. The 6th grade team lost, but both the 7th and 8th grade teams won. All three teams return to action on Thursday (tonight) at Garrard County.



RCMS 8th grader Ben Allen goes up for a shot against Casey County on Thursday night. The 8th graders won 46-35. Allen had 6 points in the contest. The middle school returns home next Thursday, December 16th when they host Meece.



RCMS 6th grader Douglas Nicely applies the pressure to a Casey County player on Thursday night. The 6th grade team lost 29-16. (Freshmen, JV and RCMS photos by: Kevin Canterbury)

Freshman girls win two games

The girls' freshman basketball team is now 2-0 with wins over Somerset and South Laurel.

Against Somerset, the Lady Rockets won 37-34 and were led in scoring by Katie Cowan with 11. Emily Miller had 7, Michaela Hunter 5, Sara Adams 4, Kadi Cobb and Bree Tillery had 3 each and Holly

Hamm and Alexis Chasteen added 2 each.

The freshman team also took down South Laurel on Monday night 42-25 and were led in scoring by Holly Hamm with 16. Michaela Hunter had 11, Kadi Cobb 8, Katie Cowan 4 and Sara Adams 1. The freshmen team is now 2-0 on the season.

Freshmen boys lose two games

The Rockcastle High school boys' freshman basketball team saw action against Somerset and South Laurel this past week, losing to Somerset 39-31 and South Laurel 58-37.

Against Somerset, the freshmen were led in scoring by Zach Walker with 12 and Ben Lake who had 10.

Will Reynolds had 4, Jadon Brock 3 and Cody Noe added

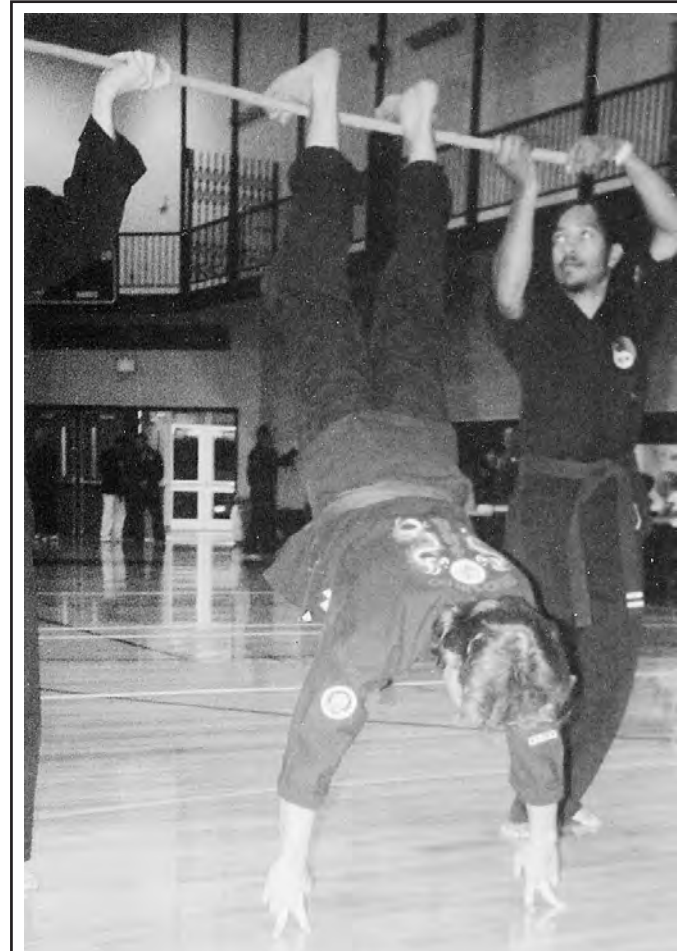
2. Against South Laurel, the freshmen kept it close in the first half, but wound up losing their second straight game.

The freshmen were led in scoring by Cody Noe with 14, Zach Walker got 9, Jadon Brock and Ben Lake had 6 each and Will Reynolds scored 2. The freshmen are now 0-2.

Email sports items to mvsignal@windstream.net



Robert Nantz, left, a student at the Mt. Vernon Shaolin Karate Club, participated in the blackbelt competition at the Shaolin Fall Tournament at Lexington Catholic High School. He received a third place medal in point sparring. He is shown with his instructor, Master Eric Bullock.



Master Eric Bullock, instructor at the Mt. Vernon Shaolin Karate Club, is shown here performing the very difficult Two Finger Hand Stand at the Shaolin Fall Tournament demonstration at Lexington Catholic High School. He also performed the Ground Monkey and the Double Chain Whip Kata.



John Wells, a student and instructor at the Mt. Vernon Shaolin Karate Club, is shown doing a fist break at the Shaolin Fall Tournament demonstration at Lexington Catholic High School.



Jerry Robbins, of Mt. Vernon, killed this 8 point buck with a "unicorn" horn in Ohio on December 1st. Mr. Robbins' group killed seven deer during their trip.



Tony Mahaffey, of Mt. Vernon, killed this 13 point buck with a bow in Jackson County on Saturday, November 29th.

Rockcastle County High School Academic Honor Roll



Rockcastle County High School senior Katy Mattingly has a grade point average of 4.04 and is one of three students tied for the fourth highest ranking of the 207 seniors in the 2009 graduating class at RCHS. Mattingly is the daughter of Ken and Jennifer Mattingly of Mt. Vernon and will attend the University of Kentucky in the Fall where she will study Mining Engineering. Katy currently has Advanced Placement Classes at RCHS in Chemistry, Calculus and English and as a junior she had advanced placement classes in Physics and History. Mattingly has been a four year member of the RCHS Lady Rocket basketball team and she has started at guard for the past two seasons. Mattingly, who has also ran track for the Rockets for the past eight years, is also a member of several clubs and organizations at RCHS. Those clubs and organizations include, BETA and National Honor Society, Key Club, FCA and Rocket Club. Mattingly is this year's President of the Key Club.

Education Station

Submitted by Jennifer Napier

Would you like to start the New Year off with a promise to yourself to improve your education or get a better job? Maybe you want to build your academic skills so you can help your children with their homework or read them a bedtime story. If lack of transportation was your excuse to not keep this promise, you can't use that excuse anymore!

The Adult Learning Center at Christian Appalachian Project in Mount Vernon, provides a FREE shuttle service to three areas of Rockcastle County, for adults to further their education and build their academic skills. The shuttles operate in Livingston, Brodhead and Conway every Tuesday. The Livingston and Brodhead shuttles operate for daytime classes and the Conway shuttle operates for evening classes. The shuttles are FREE and students are picked up and dropped off at a public meeting site in each area. Students must call in advance and reserve their seat if they wish to use the FREE shuttle.

Times are tough! Employers are looking for the most qualified workers and if you don't have the education or skills, you'll be a low priority for consideration among their pool of applicants. Do you have the education required for the job, or the skills to complete an eye-catching application or resume? The Adult Learning Center pro-

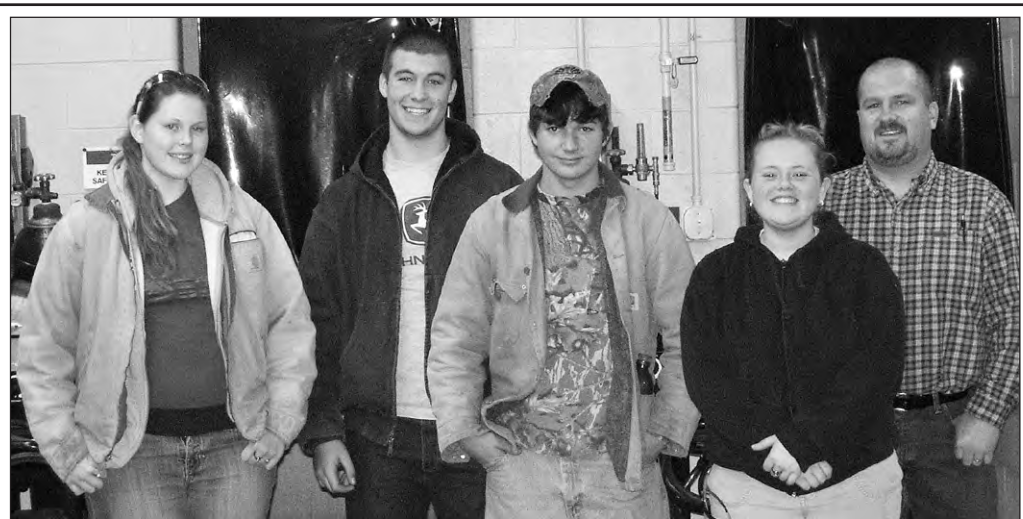
vides FREE services! Whether you need a GED, a job, college, or if someone you know wants to learn to read, we can help - FREE of charge and get you to and from class too! We have instructors in the classroom ready to help you and FREE individual tutoring appointments. What's holding you back?

The New Year is fast approaching. Make it your New Year's resolution to improve your academic or employable skills. As the holiday bills come piling in after Christmas, and you feel overwhelmed by debt, an education is something you can look forward to, that can help you dig your way out of debt by way of better employment options.

For more information about classroom services or to schedule a shuttle pick-up, please call an instructor at (606) 256-5307, or stop by our classroom, located at 4192 N. Wilderness Road in Mount Vernon (at the top of the hill above Renfro Valley Entertainment Center). It's our goal to help you achieve your dreams!



Ms. Cecilia Floyd worked with MVES fourth grade students in creating snowmen ornaments from crushed soda cans. The students used them to decorate their tree in the fourth grade hallway. Various other students created ornaments to fill the tree in the entrance.



On December 5th, four Welding Technology Students from the Rockcastle Area Technology Center attended the Excellence Expo "08" at Bluegrass Community and Technical College Danville Campus. Two students, Justin Thacker and Gordon Garner, competed in a welding competition where they had to weld a vertical V-groove with the Shielded Metal Arc process. Gordon Garner placed fourth among those schools competing. Additionally, Stephanie Graves and Angel Smith represented the schools as delegates. All participants were given tours of the college and were informed about the educational opportunities offered at the Danville campus. Pictured above from left are: Stephanie Graves, Gordon Garner, Justin Thacker, Angel Smith and Instructor, Mr. Cook.

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Pictures with Santa will be available for a \$1.00 donation which will go to the Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass

Saturday, December 13, 2008
9:00am - 11:00am
1035 Richmond Street
Mt Vernon, KY



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Minds in the Middle

Robinson Scholar applications are now available to 8th graders. Applicants must be of good academic standing, have a strong desire to attend college, and cannot have a parent or guardian with a 4-year college degree. For more information or an application, see Ms. Cromer. The Robinson Scholar program offers a full 4-year degree to the University of Kentucky or one of its community colleges. It is a great opportunity for one of our students.

The RCMS Unite Club and the Student YMCA members

are teaming up to sponsor a food drive for the Mt. Vernon Food and Clothing Mission. The drive will run through next Wednesday. Our school goal for the project is to bring in 2,009 food items.

There will be a dance this Friday sponsored by the Track Teams. Students must have team and parental permission in order to attend and should be picked up at 5:00 p.m.

Yearbooks are still on sale. Currently the cost is \$25, but will be \$30 after January 1st. So order yours now! Students made add their name to the

front cover for an additional fee.

ROCKCASTLE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARTIN E. VANZANT, CHAIRMAN
TINA CAIN HASTY, VICE CHAIRWOMAN
MICHAEL BURDETTE
ANGELA STALLSWORTH MINK
JEFFERY VANHOOK

Meeting Location - Rockcastle County Board Of Education
(Rockcastle Teaching & Learning Center) / 245 Richmond Street

AGENDA
Special Meeting
December 11, 2008
6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER:
 - A. Silent Prayer:
 - B. Roll Call:
 - C. Reading of Board Team Commitments:
2. ADOPT AGENDA/ACTION:
3. COMMUNICATION:
4. OPERATIONS/ACTIONS:
 - A. Approve minutes of the November 11 regular meeting
 - B. Approve bills for payment
 - C. Approve Emergency Substitute Teacher Application TC-4: Brittany Perkins
 - D. Approve Family Medical Leave for Carolyn Hunt in compliance with board policy 03.22322
 - E. Approve Family Medical Leave for Brenda Taylor in compliance with board policy 03.22322
 - F. Approve Family Medical Leave for Christy Harper in compliance with board policy 03.22322
 - G. Approve School Activity Fund Raisers for RCHS
 - H. Approve School Trip Forms
5. DISCUSSION/ACTION:
 - A. Review/Approve Audited Financial Statements prepared by White & Associates, PSC for year ended June 30, 2008
 - B. Review/Approve Workers Compensation Insurance Proposal from Van Meter Insurance
6. DISCUSSION/REVIEW:
 - A. Review Monthly Financial Reports
 - B. Review Superintendent's Personnel Action Report
 - C. Other:
7. ADJOURNMENT:

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What They Want!**

202 - Men's 6 - Inch Boot

- Full Grain, Water Resistant Copper Worksmith Leather
- Oil Resistant, Slip Resistant Odyssey SuperSole® Sole
- Removable ComfortForce® Footbed
- SuperSole® Welt Construction

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Sale \$124⁹⁹

1155 Men's Velva Retan Chemigum Cork With Heel - Leather Sole

Sizes: B 8-14, C 8-13, D 4-1/2 - 16, E 6-1/2 - 13, EE 6-1/2 - 13, EEE 7-14

Regular Price \$154.99
Sale \$129⁹⁹

931 - Men's 8-Inch Boot

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1132 Men's 11 - Inch Pull-On Boot

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The Rockcastle County High School Band will perform its annual Christmas Concert next Monday night in the RCHS Auditorim, at 7 p.m. Admission to the concert is free. Some of the band members who will be participating in the annual concert on Monday night are shown above, front row, from left: Lillie Biechler, Christa Doan, Samantha Taylor, Regina Rice, Cassie Taylor, Samantha Bullen, Nicole McFerron, Anjelica Craig, Mallory Harper, MacKenzie Craig, Reanna Hasty, Sarah Morgan, Andrea Gonzalez, Meghan Nation, Morgan Harper, Catherine Hounshell, Rachel Hemsley, Tara Baldwin and Johnna Ballard. Back row, from left: Ethan Miller, Dalton Hutton, Adam Alcorn, Matthew Fields, Michael Browning, Andrew Robbins, Jarrett Hamm, Johnathan Portwood, Kyle Hayes, A.J. Rehor, Mark Berry, Matt Gonzalez, Richard Barron, Waylon Mink, Josh Stallsworth, Brandon McFerron, Dalton Grey, Reed Remington, Will Walker and Band Director Greg Daugherty. Not pictured were: Hannah Tyler, Megan Gray, Jake Mink, Caleb Coffey, Devin Davidson, Kyle Shelton and Rylan Cromer)

“Court”

(Cont. from front)

a week to deal with as many defendants as possible under the new program and told the court that he would be glad to report to them once a month as to the savings to them.

Magistrate John Holbrook made a motion to enter into the program for a one year period which was seconded by Magistrate Ralph Allen and passed unanimously.

In other business, County Judge Executive Buzz Carloftis told the court that there would be a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Quail Park on December 20th at 4 p.m. for the new multi-use building constructed this year. The building was built with \$60,000 in coal severance funds and a \$50,000 land and water grant was used for the project also. Carloftis told the court that there is about \$30,000 left from the land and water grant and will be used this Spring on blacktopping the driveway (entrance to the park), extending parking and refurbishing some of the picnic areas. “I did not realize how heavily this park was used. I wish we had more of them in the county,” Carloftis said.

The court also heard a request from Sheriff Mike Peters for help with the salaries of two more “road” deputies. Peters said he was currently making do with two full time and one part time deputy, one full-time clerk, a part time clerk and six volunteers but “everything is going up and we are limited to the amount of money we take in,” Peters said. “People don’t work for free,” he added.

The matter was referred to the court’s newly formed finance committee of John Holbrook, Bill McKinney and Ralph Allen who will study the request and make a recommendation to the court at a later date.

The court also heard a request from the Rockcastle County Industrial Authority for office space in the courthouse and approval of their annual budget.

Corey Craig, RCIDA president told the court that the business of the industrial development authority had been handled out of his office at Citizens Bank for some time but needed a “presence” in the courthouse to further economic development efforts in the county.

Carloftis told the magistrates that expenses of RCIDA had never been paid by the county, except for the \$36,000 per year salary of Jim Holton, consultant, which the county pays to RCIDA. And, Carloftis noted, Holton does not even have an office to work from.

The county does provide an office space for the Rockcastle County Development Board which was formed in the late 1990s and which has no current funding. The development board has been funded in years past by \$10,000 yearly donations from Citizens Bank, Community Trust Bank, City of Mt. Vernon and Rockcastle Hospital. However, that funding has now ceased.

RCIDA was created in 1977, when the state required each county to set up such a group.

Craig said that amended by-laws of the two groups were now being drawn up to distinguish the purpose of each organization.

RCIDA’s \$62,520 budget presented to the county Tuesday includes Holton’s \$36,000 a year salary, funds for office help and supplies.

This matter was also referred to the finance committee which will report back to the court.

“ERWA”

(Cont. from front)

Corry told Whitley he was making a fool out of himself by putting things in the newspaper and that there was no record on file with the Kentucky Secretary of State, showing that KYCORPS, was actually a Kentucky corporation.

Whitley said in last week’s Signal that KYCORPS is a not-for-profit organization which plans to oversee the actions and

operations of public agencies and boards in the county, especially the board of Eastern Rockcastle Water Association.

Corry also told the crowd that he had told the Whitleys to call in the FBI to investigate ERWA, if that suited them.

Whitley had no comments to Corry’s remarks, but later in the meeting said he was encouraged by the board’s actions, especially on the matter of board member training.

The board also voted to move their meeting place from the courthouse to the room used by the homecoming committee in Livingston, next to the association office, and to change the date and time.

The ERWA board will meet the third Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

The board also approved their budget for 2009, which includes \$280,000 in projected revenue and \$261,000 in projected expenses.

ERWA has approximately 600 customers, mostly in the eastern and southern part of the county.

The next regular scheduled monthly meeting of the board will be January 19th in Livingston at 10 a.m.

“Arrested”

(Cont. from front)

Dorothy Page was charged with illegal sale and possession of alcohol in a dry territory and cited to court. Her arraignment is scheduled for January 12th.



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Friday, December 19th
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Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, December 11, 2008

Scenes from the Brodhead Christmas Parade 2008



Some members of the Just Horsin' Around Crew participated in Saturday's Christmas parade at Brodhead. Shown above, from left are: Kayla Bishop, Ashley Cash and Mary Bishop. Numerous other photos from the parades in Brodhead and Mt. Vernon will appear in the *Signal's* December 25th Christmas edition.



Members of the Rockcastle County High School JROTC Color Guard participated in Saturday's Christmas Parade at Brodhead. Members of the Color Guard are shown above, from left: Cullen White, Ben Whitaker, Andrea Vanwinkle and Stanley Baggett.



Brodhead resident Dale Lark, gave Brodhead Homecoming Queen Morgan Campbell, a ride in his 1964 Corvette in Saturday's Christmas Parade.



Mayor Walter Cash drove his Gator in Saturday's Christmas Parade in downtown Brodhead. (Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin)

Attention people with Medicare:



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News from the Rockcastle Courthouse

Marriage Licenses

Margaret Daniel, 44, Mt. Vernon, Tokico to William Stanley Moye, 54, Mt. Vernon, factory. 12/02/08.

District Civil Suits

Verne Decker, et al vs. Stephanie Miller, et al, forcible detainer complaint

Atlantic Credit and Finance, Inc. vs Anna Warner, \$1,664.40 plus claimed due.
Hinkle Contracting Corp. vs. Jeffery W. Shaver, \$2,687.37 plus claimed due.
Northstar Capital Acquisition vs. Andrew S. Elam, et al, \$848.69 plus claimed due.
Midland Funding LLC vs. Terry Cromer, \$806.61 plus claimed due.
Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center vs. Josie Bengé, \$1,168.31 plus claimed due.
PDC Management Group LLC vs. Lillian Ramsey,

\$3,270.04 plus claimed due.
Northstar Capital Acquisition LLC vs. David M. Sowder, \$3,968.55 plus claimed due.
Capital One Bank vs. Kate H. St. Ives, \$732.33 plus claimed due.
Capital One Bank vs. Carolyn L. Rice, \$574.04 plus claimed due. C-00309.

Circuit Civil Suits

Punhill II LLC vs. Billy Bowling, \$4,953.91 plus claimed due.
Farley E. Newcomb, Sr., et al vs. Bridgette Payne, petition for permanent custody.
Jamie Leigh Lynch vs. Timothy Shane Lynch, petition for dissolution of marriage.
Ford Motor Credit Co. vs. Amy Bowling, \$10,186.75 plus claimed due.
Discover Bank vs Melbia J. Moore, \$14,912.78 plus claimed due.
Chase Home Finance LLC vs. Kathe Reece, \$118,400 plus claimed due.
Tabitha Hogan vs. Stephen Hogan, petition for dissolution of marriage. CI-00330.

District Court

Dec. 01-03, 2008
Hon. Jeffrey S. Lawless
Daniel McElroy: fines/fees due (\$212), bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to appear (fta)/5 days or payment.
Bryan H. McQueen: fault equipment, \$200 fine and costs.
Angela S. Medley: fines/fees due (\$653 and \$228), converted to 30 days in jail.
Krista Nicole Roberts: driving with license, and other charges, bw issued for fta/license suspended.
Michael R. Saylor: no operators license in possession, \$100 fine and costs.
Leah C. Johnson: public intoxication and failure to wear seat belts, 6 days each in lieu of fines and costs/costs waived.
Jonathon H. Lewis: public intoxication, 6 days in lieu of fines and costs.
Mike Martin: alcohol intoxication and contempt of court, time served in lieu of fines and costs.
Mickey Barnes: fines/fees due (\$161.79), bw issued for fta.
Charles J. Bolinsky, Jr.: no license in possession, \$100 fine and costs; failure to maintain insurance, \$500 fine/suspend \$450 on condition.
Kevin Clark: fines/fees due (\$25), bw issued for fta/1 day in jail or payment.
Lewis Dale Cotton: fines/fees due (\$163), bw issued for fta/4 days or payment.
Steven Damrell: failure to maintain insurance and operating on suspended/revoked operators license, license suspended for fta.
James A. Dawson: fines/fees due (\$188), convert to 3 days in jail.
Amanda Kaye Gilbert: fines/fees due (\$200), bw issued for fta/5 days or payment.
John R. Harmon: theft by deception, \$20 fine and costs, 20 days in jail/probated 12 months on condition, plus restitution to Save-A-Lot.
Cordia J. Hensley: fines/fees due (\$142) bw issued for fta/4 days or payment.
Eric Baker: fines/fees due (\$125), bw issued for fta/4 days or payment.
Regina Edwards: fines/fees due (4163), bw issued for fta/5 days or payment.
Daniel S. Haskins: fines/fees due (\$243), bw issued for fta/5 days or payment.
Nancy Howard: fines/fees due (\$238), bw issued for fta/6 days or payment.
Tim Robbins: fines/fees due (\$383), bw issued for fta/10 days or payment.
Jim Shafer: fines/fees due (\$103), bw issued for fta/3 days or payment.
Jackie Smith: fines/fees due (\$413), bw issued for fta/10 days or payment.
James L. Smith: fines/fees due (\$262), bw issued for fta/7 days or payment.
Guadalupe D. Velazquez: fines/fees due (\$153), bw issued for fta/4 days or payment.
Deborah R. Wilhelm: fines/fees due (\$663), bw issued for fta/14 days or payment.
William D. Young: fines/

fees due (\$753), bw issued for fta/15 days or payment.
Tammy R. Cain: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, use/possession drug paraphernalia, possession controlled substance and 2nd degree possession of controlled substance, sentencing orders entered.

Darron Dooley: failure to wear seat belts, 425 fine.
Lesley Y. Hibbard: public intoxication, \$50 fine and costs; contempt of court, 3 days/concurrent w/Clay Co. service.
Serafin-Amnerieso Legorreta: alcohol intoxication, \$50 fine and costs.

Kentucky Crossword # 392

www.kentuckycrosswords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14						15				16			
17						18				19			
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66						67				68			

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Notice

to all property owners bordering Lambert Road

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court recognizes the need to widen and improve Lambert Road due to increased traffic. **If you own property that borders Lambert Road please contact** Paralegal Kathy Robinson at the County Attorney's office at 606-256-2730 to draw up an easement so that the County can begin work. If you have any questions, feel free to contact secretary Amanda Owens at the County Judge Executive's office at 606-256-2856.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and desire to help us improve Lambert Road.


Sincerely,

Buzz Carloftis, County Judge Executive
Jan Stevens, Magistrate of the Fourth District

Deeds Recorded

Archie and Billie Bales, property on old U.S. 25, to Alice Arlene and William M. Smith. No tax.
Michael and Vicky Alcorn, property in Cedar Point Subdv., to Johnnie Bullock, Jr. and Carolyn Bullock. Tax \$1.
Margaret Barnett, and others, property in Rockcastle County, to David N. Thompson. Tax \$28.50.
Freddy Carl Isaacs, property in Rockcastle County, to Shawn and Patricia Simmons. Tax \$7.00.
Kevin and Lanette Vote, property north of Mt. Vernon, to Gary and Arlene Todd. Tax \$6.
Walter and Fronie Collins, property in Rockcastle County, to Flora Marie Collins and Charles B. Falin. No tax.

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ACROSS

1 Mutton cut
6 Short title for Kentuckian James Baker Hall?
10 Home KY county of Cumberland Gap
14 Kentuckian, poet, lawyer, soldier, Theodore
15 Zeus' wife
16 A Great Lake
17 The Tradewater in W KY, for one
18 Finished
19 KY Poet Laureate, Joe Survant's "___ and Alpheus"
20 Compass dir.
21 Pike Co. area, or buy back
23 Layer
24 Shoestrung
25 Records
27 Flee
30 KY county, formed in 1821 from parts of Clay and Floyd
32 Egg-shaped
33 Man 'o War's nickname, Big ___
34 "Halt!" to a sailor
38 Prehistoric ax
39 Epilogue
40 Hipbones
41 Kentuckian, longtime New York Times columnist
43 "___ luck?"
44 Thump
45 Home county of Bethlehem, KY
47 Claim

DOWN

1 Achy
2 Jawline
3 Great review
4 "___ we there yet?"
5 Walker (fox)
hounds originated in this KY county
6 Call up
7 Guns the engine
8 Creme cookie
9 KY Ag Commissioner
10 Town where the N and S Forks of the Kentucky River meet
11 Former KY governor Fletcher
12 Ship
13 Unfriendly looks
22 Feign
24 Seat of Grayson Co., KY

26 Gun grp.
27 Wharf
28 Constantly
29 Without help
30 Secretariat's owner, ___ Tweedy
31 Water whirl
33 Bring up
35 Cream additive
36 Tell all
37 Profits
42 KY statewide TV
44 KY county, home to Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park
46 Sprites
47 Alias
48 Peak
49 Kentuckian Nathan Stubblefield's demonstration
50 Perspective
51 Onlooker
54 Hartford, KY is this county's seat
55 1972 Derby winner, ___ Ridge
56 Diving duck
57 Televises
58 The "Lion of White Hall"
62 Copy

SOLUTION TO KY 391

H	A	L	L	O		C	A	G	E		E	M	C	E
A	D	A	R		O	V	A	L		N	A	R	K	S
P	O	K	E		L	A	Y	S		G	R	E	E	T
P	R	E	S	T	I	O	N	I	E	S	L	L	I	E
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A	L	I	E		B	U	R	N	I	N	G			
W	E	N	D	E	L	I	P	O	R	E		G	O	
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J	U	L	I	A	N	C	A	R	R	O	L	L		
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S	E	V	E	N		C	U	R	E		E	R	I	E
A	I	W	A	R	D		S	T	I	L	L		A	D

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The Rockcastle County Farm Bureau was recognized for outstanding membership and program achievement during the recent 89th Kentucky Farm Bureau annual meeting in Louisville. Here, Terry Lawson, center, accepts the award from David S. Beck, right, Kentucky Farm Bureau executive vice president and Roger L. Simpson, executive vice president of Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance Companies during a December 5 recognition and awards program.



SAE Spotlight...

The Rockcastle County FFA would like to congratulate Jeffery Albright for being the SAE Spotlight for this month. Jeffery is the son of Jeff and Melissa Albright. Jeffery is currently a senior at Rockcastle County High School and Vice-President of the Rockcastle County FFA Chapter. Jeffery grows eight acres of tobacco and has ten head of beef cattle. He has several pieces of farm equipment. Jeffery's achievements within the RCHS FFA Chapter have been Vice-President, Chaplain, Assistant Vice-President, Star Greenhand, Crop Impromptu Speech and Specialty Crop Proficiency. Jeffery's future plans consist of graduating high school and continuing to farm.

Annual Thanksgiving Community Service held

On Wednesday, November 26, the Rockcastle Ministerial Association with the kind help of the folks from First Baptist Church, presented the Annual Thanksgiving Community Service. Eddie Nation, Pastor of the First Baptist Church greeted the gathering and Buford Parkerson opened with prayer. A time of musical worship was led by Luther Allen with his wife, Sandy, and Pamela Martin accompanying the singing.

Bruce Ross, Treasurer of the Association told of the past year's services to Transients through the Association's Transient Ministry. Mike Bryant, President of the Association, introduced the night's speaker, and Casey McClure brought an encouraging message. The evening was then closed with prayer by Jack Bruce.

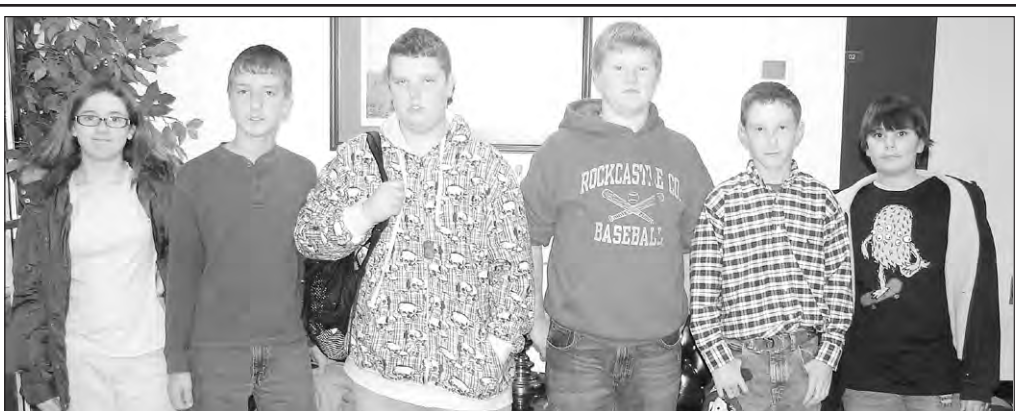
meeting will be used to fuel the Ministerial Association's Transient Ministry as well as to help some events in Rockcastle County. It took an average of 225.00 per month last year and the Thanksgiving offering will offer us several months of service. The Transient Ministry, however, depends on continuing gifts from the County's generous congregations and individuals.

The Association would like to thank God for the generosity of His congregations of the Church. If you would like to make a one-time gift or a regular support, you can send a check made out to "Rockcastle Ministerial Association" care of Bruce Ross at First Christian Church, P.O. Box 1305, Mount Vernon. If you have any questions, please call Bruce Ross at 256-2876.

Mt. Vernon Message

School News
Book Fair activities for this week are:
Grandparents' Day for 3rd Grade—Thursday, December 11.
Donuts for Dad—Thursday, December 11
Grandparents' Day for 4th and 5th Grades—Friday, December 12
Project Wisdom Readers for last week were:
Monday: Noland Broadus
Tuesday: Scarlett Eaton
Wednesday: Elijah Jones
Thursday: David Morris
Friday: Our mystery reader was Beck Daugherty.
The Brownie and Junior Girl Scout Troops will have their Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 16th from 3:10 until 4:30.
5th Grade UNITE Club meets on Friday, December

19 at 2:05.
PTG News
Our PTG has a meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 11 at 3:30. Please make plans to attend.
PTG "PJ Fundraiser Day" is Friday, December 19. Students, faculty and staff will be permitted to wear their PJ's to school in exchange for a \$1 donation to our PTG.
Christmas Break begins December 22 and students are scheduled to return on January 5. Enjoy your time off with family and friends.
FRC News
FRC 100% Club meets Thursday, December 11.
FRC is sponsoring a Family literacy night for 2nd grade on Tuesday, December 16th at 5:00.
The FRC Council will meet on Wednesday, December 17 at 12:30 in the FRC Office.
FRC Christmas Gifts will be ready for pick-up on Monday, December 22 and Tuesday, December 23.
FRC Adult Computer classes are each Monday from 6:00 until 8:00.
FRC/CAP GED Classes are each Tuesday from 1:00 until 2:00.
Our quote for this week is: "You can make more friends in two months by being interested in others than you can make in two years trying to get others interested in you."



Last Tuesday was High Attendance Day at RCMS. Congratulations to the following students on winning gift cards: Brooke Fields, Matthew Alexander, Austin Brown, Boone Saylor, Larken Prewitt, and Jeremiah Caudill. Thanks PTSA for providing the prizes.

Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board

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Bookmobile Schedule
Mon., Dec. 15th: Calloway, Red Hill, Livingston, Lamero and Pine Hill. **Tues., Dec. 16th:** Maple Grove, Orlando, Climax, Three Links. **Wed., Dec. 17th:** Day Health/Sr. Citizens, Carter Drive Apts. and Brindle Ridge.

Community Christmas Dinner
The City of Livingston will host their annual Community Christmas Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 14th in the Livingston Gym, Preston Parrett Center. Mayor J.C. Griffin and Commissioners of the City of Livingston welcome all to attend.

Project Graduation Meeting
There will be a Project Graduation 2009 meeting Monday, Jan. 5th at 6:30 in the high school cafeteria. Meetings will follow on the first Monday of each month. All parents/guardians of seniors are urged to attend.

SBDM Meeting
There will be a meeting of the SBDM Council at RCHS on Wed., Dec. 17th at 3:45 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Woodment of the World Christmas Dinner
Woodmen of the World will host a Christmas Dinner for members of the lodge at the Tea Cup Cafe, Main St., Mt. Vernon, on Dec. 11th, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. For more info, contact the Berea Lodge Hall at 859-986-0736, Mary Ann McNew 606-256-4046 or Vicki Chasteen 606-256-4817.

Holiday Classes at Extension Office
Dec. 12th: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Sit-N-Sew; finish sewing your holiday gifts. You must register for all classes. Call 256-2403 to register for supplies and/or costs.

Christmas Concert at RCHS
The annual Christmas Concert at Rockcastle County High School will be held Monday, Dec. 15th at 7 p.m. The concert will feature the band and chorus. Refreshments will be served beginning at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free.
The first annual **Christmas Around Town Holiday Tour** will be held Friday, December 19th. Tickets are on sale at The Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and at Rockcastle High School. The tour includes holiday music, crafts, caroling, Santa and more! For more information, contact Anita Nation or Janice Miller at 606-256-4816 or call the Hall of Fame at 256-1000.

RCIDA Meeting
The Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority holds its regular meeting the first Monday of each month at noon on the third floor of the courthouse.

Historical Society Hours
Rockcastle Historical Society is open Mondays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the RTEC garage building. Due to the holidays, regular monthly meetings will not be held in Nov. and Dec. Meetings will resume in Jan., 2009.

Kiwanis Club Meetings
The Rockcastle Kiwanis Club meets every Thursday at noon at Renfro Valley Lodge.

Women's Narcotics Meeting
There will be a Women's Narcotics Anonymous Meeting every Monday evening at 8 p.m. at the Community Center, sponsored by Christian Appalachian Center. For more information, contact the Healing Rain Center at 256-5810.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.

Narcotics Anonymous
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Jim Sandusky Roofing: Free estimates. Cell 1-859-983-7877. 40ftn
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Notices

Notice is hereby given that Ernie Lee Bowling, P.O. Box 269, Brodhead, Ky. 40409 has been appointed executor of the estate of Loretta Elizabeth Bowling on the 19th day of November, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them according to law to the said Ernie Lee Bowling on or before May 20, 2009 at 11 a.m. 2x3

Notice is hereby given that Jeffrey Sampson, 3598 Burnt Ridge Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed executor of the estate of Wanda Sampson on the 2nd day of December 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Jeffrey Sampson or to Hon. Frankie C. Blevins, Jr., Blevins Law, 400 Richmond Rd. N., Ste. C, Berea, Ky. 40403 on or before June 3, 2009 at 11 a.m. 4x3

Notice is hereby given that James D. Harris, 754 Tar Kiln Road, Brodhead, Ky. 40409 has been appointed administrator of the estate of Acree Harris, Jr. on the 26th day of November, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said James D. Harris or to Hon. John D. Ford, 45 East Main St., P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before May 27, 2009 at 11 a.m. 3x3

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RCHS Band has big week ahead

Submitted by A. B. Sharpe

Congratulations to all who placed in the 2009 Bluegrass All-Regional Band Ensembles last Sunday at South Laurel High School. Rockcastle was well represented at the competition. Devin Davidson (placed 2nd chair in the region) and Nicole McFerron are the selected Symphonic Band Members while Meghan Nation, Regina Rice, Matt Fields, and Anjelica Craig were chosen for the Concert Band. This competition took place after a busy week of tree lighting, parades and basketball games. The section leaders also travelled to Transylvania University last Thursday evening and rehearsed with the Central Kentucky Concert Band. The entire RCHS Concert Band will be rehearsing with them on Saturday in preparation for the performance this Sunday.

Sunday, December 14th, at Transylvania University the RCHS Concert Band is performing with the Central Kentucky Concert Band. The show, Back to Bayreuth features the music of Richard Wagner. In case you are not familiar, Richard Wagner was a dynamic German composer of the 1800's. He composed many operas and other works. The title Back to Bayreuth refers to the town in Germany that Wagner built his opera house and made his home. There has been a big festival there every year since Wagner first opened his opera house in 1871.

In addition to writing operas, Wagner also made signifi-

cant changes to the conditions under which operas were performed. It was Wagner who first demanded that the lights be dimmed during dramatic performances, and it was his theatre in Bayreuth which first made use of the sunken orchestra pit. Wagner also developed a style in which the orchestra's role is equal to that of the singers. This was a new form of opera which he called "music drama", in which all the musical and dramatic elements are fused together.

You may think you don't know anything about Wagner but actually you have heard some of his compositions. The song played at most weddings, "Here Comes the Bride", is from his opera Lohengrin. His music was a big influence on the soundtracks for the Star Wars and the three Lord of the Rings movies. One of the selections to be performed Sunday Night is the famous "Ride Of The Valkyries" which has been used in over 27 movies including Apocalypse Now, Excalibur, The Blues Brothers and even the old Elmer Fudd cartoon What's Opera, Doc?. As Elmer Fudd hunts for Bugs Bunny, he keeps singing, "Kill the wabbit. Kill the wabbit." to the memorable refrain of "Ride of the Valkyries".


The program Sunday night includes not only "Ride of the Valkyries", but also "Huldigungsmarsch" (March of homage), "Wotan's Farewell and Magic Fire Music", and "Entry of the Gods into Valhalla", and several other

works. The RCHS Concert Band will be performing "The Pilgrim's Chorus" from Wagner's opera Tannhauser. This night of melodic offerings will be powerful and resounding. Your heart will race with the evocative intensity of Wagner's masterpieces. Come hear for yourself some of the most ambitious musical work ever composed. Join the RCHS Concert Band for an engaging evening of compelling artistry as they make their debut this Sunday in Haggin Auditorium, on the Transylvania University campus. The curtain goes up at 7:30 pm. Admission is free.

This coming week is yet another busy one for the band. On Monday, December 15th, the RCHS Music Department presents their 2nd annual "Sounds of the Season Concert" which features the RCHS Chamber Choir, Brass Choir, Concert Band, and Mixed Chorus. They will be performing various holiday selections and will end with a finale featuring a special rendition of "Twas the Night Before Christmas. Refreshments will be served in the foyer of the auditorium beginning at 6:30 p.m. The concert starts at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free.

Several members of the RCHS Concert Band are also performing with the Middle School on Thursday, December 18th. The RCMS Band students and the RCMS Chorus will be having their annual Christmas Concert. This is the first time the 6th graders will be playing in public. Admission is free to this annual event and this year it is being held in the High School Auditorium. The show begins at 6:30pm.

Friday, December 19th - The Rockcastle County High School Band Boosters in conjunction with the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame is presenting the first annual Christmas Around Town Holiday Tour. The tours, available at 4:30pm and 6:00pm, begin at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley and will include visits to homes and businesses around town. Each home or business will feature different activities—caroling, sweet treats, crafts and more. The tour ends at the Hall of Fame where the RCHS Brass Choir will be playing Christmas Music. Santa and his elves will also be on hand with treats for adults and children. The ticket price is \$10 for adults and only \$5.00 for children, with a paying adult. The ticket price also includes a tour of the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Renfro. Tickets are available now at the Hall of Fame and at RCHS. For more information call Robert Lawson at 256-1000 or Anita Nation at 256-4816.



The Family Room
By: Dr. Roy Don Whitehead

Would you like to have a job that pays \$2.13 an hour and in which you must endure unpleasant treatment and sometimes verbal abuse? You can have just such a job, you know. All you have to do is become a waitress.

Waitresses (and waiters) have my admiration. I have seen them handle unruly customers and those who were downright rude. I have seen them smile and say nothing when accused of all manner of evil-doing. Waitresses put up with more unpleasant people than most of us ever encounter.

Something about restaurants seems to bring out the worst in some people. Perhaps it is because they are hungry and tired. Perhaps it is because their squalling children cannot be calmed by any method. Whatever the reason, some folks give waitresses a hard time.

I know that there are bad waitresses. However, many times the problem is not the fault of the waitress. If your steak is not cooked as you ordered, that is not her fault. If your food arrived cold, that may not be her fault either. In most cases however, she is the one who gets the blame. Perhaps you are surprised to discover that waitresses are paid \$2.13 an hour. You thought minimum wage applied to everyone, and you thought the minimum wage for everyone went up this year, didn't you? Well, it does not apply to waitresses and their minimum wage did not increase this year. The government in its wisdom did not apply the minimum wage to waitresses, figuring that THEY WOULD MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE IN TIPS.

I learned the importance of tips when I was in school. I held several different jobs while I was in school in New Haven, Connecticut, and one year I drove a taxicab. I was also paid less than minimum wage on the assumption that

tips would make up the difference. I can tell you that sometimes they did and sometimes they did not.

Some people tip better than others. I was told by other cabbies and quickly learned on my own that Yankees tip better than Southerners. (As a Southerner it pains me to admit this.) When a plane arrived at New Haven Airport from a southern city, cabbies knew that the tips would not be as good.

My one claim to fame as a cabbie is that I gave country music star Charley Pride a ride from the airport to his downtown hotel. Charley was great! He was delighted to find that I was from Kentucky and was interested in what I was doing in the north. We talked country music the whole trip, and he thanked me when we got to his hotel.

I am unable to say such nice things about the gentleman who was with him. After Mr. Pride

went into the hotel, his associate paid me. He held out a dollar bill for a tip (a big tipper!), but when I reached for it, he pulled it away from me. He held it out again, and when I reached for it, he pulled it away and laughed. I suppose this was his idea of a joke. I was not amused.

The moral of this story is: appreciate your waitress and give her a good tip. How much should you tip? At least 15 percent and 20 is better. For a ten-dollar meal the tip would be \$2.00. It is certainly appropriate to give an even larger tip when the service has been particularly good.

Twenty percent does not amount to a lot of money, but it may make a big difference to your waitress. If she is supporting two children on \$2.13 an hour plus tips, every tip makes a difference. She can almost certainly use the money, so be generous. It is, after all, the season for giving.

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At Mt. Vernon's regular monthly meeting

Council votes to obtain funding for tourism project, buys fire truck, raises water rates

By: Richard Anderkin

At Monday night's regular monthly meeting of the Mt. Vernon City Council a massive amount of business was conducted, with an even larger

amount of money being spent.

In a nutshell, the council voted to give Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby the authority to obtain funding for the Rockcastle Tourism Commis-

sion and funding for the balance due on the purchase of additional property for the city park on Williams Street.

The council also voted to buy a new fire truck and a new

backhoe and they raised water rates.

After Monday's meeting, Mayor Kirby now has the authority to obtain funding in the amount of \$750,000 for the

Rockcastle Tourism Commission, which will purchase 20-23 acres overlooking, Renfro Valley, I-75 and Lake Linville, where they plan to build a tourism conference center in the likeness of a castle.

The \$750,000 will come from the sell of low interest bonds through the Kentucky Area Development District's (KADD) Financing Trust.

Mayor Kirby again told the council and those present, including members of the tourism commission, that the loan would be paid back by the tourism commission through the city. The Mayor said the City and Tourism Commission would have a detailed contract as to the pay back obligation.

Tourism CEO Susan Laws said at an earlier meeting of the council, that some of the proceeds from the 3% restaurant tax would be used to pay off the loan.

Laws said the restaurant tax generates anywhere from \$20,000 to \$30,000 a month, which is split between the city and tourism commission.

The Tourism Commission had requested the money be borrowed by the city because the Tourism Commission does not qualify for low interest loans, such as the one being obtained.

The Mayor did not give the council any details as to the length of the loan but she did say the interest rate would be around 5%.

Before the council voted on the funding, local resident

Mike Smith questioned the Mayor and Laws as to the feasibility of the project.

Smith said he thought the purchase price was extremely high and was a bad idea, given the current state of the economy. Smith said he was afraid that local taxpayers would end up paying for the tourism project because it could not pay for itself and that if the land had to be sold to pay off the debt, it "wouldn't bring what you all are paying for it."

Laws told Smith that extensive research had been done on the project and that she did not think Congressman Harold Rogers would be supporting the project, if he and his staff did not think it was feasible.

The discussion between the Mayor and Smith, who also

(Cont. to A14)



Celebrating the Birth of Christ

Members of the Skaggs Creek Baptist Church had a live Nativity Scene at the church on Friday and Saturday, in celebration of the birth of Christ, which was attended by many local people. Shown above, from left, are: Wisemen Jeff Cromer, Tom Hayes and Bill Hammond, Angel Dana Payne, and Ricky and Emily Cheeks as Mary & Joseph.

Community Trust Bank will loan county funds for SoureCorp Building

By a unanimous vote last Thursday, the Rockcastle Fiscal Court approved an ordinance for financing of the \$2.7 million construction costs of the new SourceCorp building with Community Trust Bank. The action came at a special called meeting of the court.

There was quite a bit of discussion among magistrates and County Judge/Executive Buzz Carloftis about the merits of dealing with Ross, Sinclair and issuing bonds, which

would become a general obligation debt of the county or leasing the money from Community Trust Bank.

Ross, Sinclair, a Lexington based bonding company which specializes in public financing, had told Carloftis and Magistrate Bill McKinney that the bond market had tightened considerably since the first time an issue was discussed and the projected interest rate would be 7%, and perhaps 8% or higher on the day of issue.

Also, fees to Ross, Sinclair for handling the process would amount to about \$60,000, McKinney said.

On the other hand, the interest on a loan from Community Trust Bank, according to Mike Blount, Market President for Rockcastle County, would range from 4% to 7 1/2%. The terms are actually 1/2% above prime, however, the floor is 4%.

County Treasurer Joe Clontz told the court that the

Community Trust offer would be the best for the court because the prime would have to rise considerably before it would affect the county's interest rate. Clontz also said the lower interest rate would save the county as much as \$150,000 over a three year period.

The first offer from Community Trust was actually for a range of 5% to 7 1/2% for the interest rate. However, when

(Cont. to A14)

Livingston Parade is Saturday

The annual Christmas Parade at Livingston will be Saturday, December 20th at 6 p.m. All floats are welcome.

Line-up is at 5 p.m. at White Star.

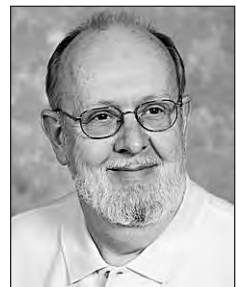


Roadways were slick throughout Rockcastle last Friday, including on Old Dixie Hwy. in Mt. Vernon, after Mother Nature dumped an inch of snow on top of ice covered roads. Rockcastle weatherman Bud Cox, said Friday's snow was the second recordable snowfall this season. The first snowfall was November 20th when a half-inch fell. Cox said he also recorded a trace of snow on four different days this winter season. Rockcastle County Schools were dismissed for the first time this year because of inclement weather.



Approximately 100 people attended the annual Community Christmas Dinner at Livingston on Sunday afternoon. Shown above, from left are: Lorraine Maggard, Lil Griffin and J.C. Griffin. Maggard is a former council member, while J.C. Griffin serves as Livingston Mayor and his wife, Lil, is a council member. Below, Vicky Mink and Doug Mink go through the line at Sunday's Dinner, where there was lots of good food and a visit from Santa Claus. (Photos by: Richard Anderkin).





Rockcastle Memories

By David J. Griffin

Pop was a School Board member

A few weeks ago I was fortunate enough to be elected to the Powell County Board of Education. For most of my life I have been involved in education, and I look forward for this opportunity to serve during this difficult time.

When I was a small boy, my grandfather Eugene Stokes (Pop) was also a school board member in Rockcastle County. He too was very proud to serve. Pop thought that education is the most important aspect of a child's development – even though he did not have a high school diploma himself.

Pop was a businessman, and he worked harder than anyone I ever knew. During the week, he traveled across several counties selling Aubry Red "A" feed and groceries from Louisville Grocery Company. When he first began this vocation, his travels were on horseback. Rain or shine he rode that horse to the businesses in his district.

I never heard him complain about how hard he had to work. He was proud to have a good job in those challenging times. Later he wore out several automobiles with his travels as a "drummer of goods."

Such a business was not without its dangers. One dark and stormy night (yes, really), Pop was headed home during a severe thunderstorm when a bolt of lightning hit his horse, knocking it to its knees. I remember him describing it by saying, "I thought a tree had fallen on my head." After he was able to get the horse back on its feet, he led the animal for several miles back home.

When he was elected to the board position, Pop served with several other important men from Mt. Vernon. He was

proud of his position on the Mt. Vernon Independent Board of Education. Pop was extremely pleased to be serving with such successful gentlemen.

Mr. Logan Bryant was one of Pop's close friends, and they served on the board at the same time. Mr. Bryant owned and operated Bryant's Appliance Store on Main Street. I first got to know him when Pop took me to the store and asked if his grandson could purchase a stereo record player on time payments.

Pop assured him that if his grandson failed to make a payment, he would pay off the debt. I saved my money each week and went in every Saturday to pay Mr. Bryant \$2 until the contract was fulfilled. I will never forget the trust both men had in me, and I never missed a payment.

In addition to Mr. Bryant, Doctor John D. Henderson was also a member of the board. His reputation was known all over that part of the state for his ability to make a set of dentures for \$100. People came from far and wide to sit in his office overnight to get first in line. Dr. Henderson would pull the teeth and put in the dentures at the same time.

Two other members of the board worked at the Bank of Mt. Vernon. N.M. Smock was President of the bank. His reputation for honesty and having a good business sense was known throughout the county.

Bob McKenzie was also employed at the Bank of Mt. Vernon as a teller. He too had a reputation for integrity and fair business dealings.

I think Pop loved being in the company of such good and honest men. He treasured their

(Cont. to A4)



Siblings on course for lifetime of togetherness

Sibling unity has been a trademark of the Bakers of Leslie County for nearly seven decades.

In fact, you might say it runs in the family.

Half the clan of 12 was in Renfro Valley on a recent snowy Saturday morning, taking part in a four-mile race sponsored by the hospital in Rockcastle County.

Mollie, 66, was the top runner in her age group on this particular day, pausing to cheer on her brother and sisters after crossing the finish line.

What started 15 years ago with an invitation from one sibling to take part in a race sponsored by her company has turned into a family tradition.

Although all 12 have yet to compete together in a single race, nearly all have taken part at one time or another in half marathons and races of various other distances.

At least half come together for marathons in Indianapolis each May and October. A family favorite is the Run For Your Life walk/run held in Hyden each spring to benefit the American Cancer Society.

"We've always been close

as a family, and the races give us an opportunity to come together several times a year," said Mollie, a retired English teacher at Leslie County High School.

"We do this, and then we go out and eat," said Evia Mullins, a retired factory worker now living in Mt. Vernon.

The family's togetherness is easily traceable back to their days growing up "along the second fork at Wooten," deep in the hills of Leslie.

Following their most recent outing, all six sat around a table sharing stories and reflecting on childhood days spent with strict, but loving, parents.

Some have vivid memories of their hard-working father making the daily six-mile trip to the coal mines where he put in 12-hour days. The family had a car, but Bill Baker left it in the driveway in case his wife needed it for an emergency.

His children recall him coming home often with 50 pound bags of feed on his back for the milk cow, hogs, and chickens raised by the family.

In winter months, their father's wet overalls would be frozen stiff and left standing

(Cont. to A4)

T.J.'s Journal

by: Tonya J. Cook



Dear Journal,

Where were you when it began? Stanley and I were over at London doing a little shopping. Exactly what was "it" you may wonder. The exceptionally beautiful snow that fell last Thursday night, of course.

We usually end up over at London two or three days out of the week for one reason or another, and this particular time it was last Thursday night when I noticed some sleet and a mixture of freezing rain starting to fall. I didn't remember hearing anything about it on the weather forecast earlier, so I figured it would stop shortly. Besides, Stanley pointed out that the thermometer in the car indicated that it was 40 degrees outside. We proceeded to the next store without giving the weather much thought. By the time we came back to the car, it was covered with sleet and ice, and the parking lot was getting pretty slick. We decided to go back home while we still could.

We got home without incident, and tuned on the TV to the Weather Channel. By the way, it's been rumored that if you watch the Weather Channel a lot like you would regular programming, it's a tell-tale sign that you're getting old. Not necessarily. Sometimes it's the only thing on that's very interesting. After you reach a cer-

tain age, it doesn't take a lot to entertain you, either, I've always said. We didn't watch anything very long because soon the satellite went out. Too much ice on the dish, I guess. We looked outside and the snow had started. Being the "snow lovers" that we are, we decided to watch it for a while from our front porch.

The following night, we had

(Cont. to A4)

Points East

By Ike Adams

My Dad was a coal miner who spent most of his adult life gouging out a living by getting coal from deep inside a mountain to the outside where it could be loaded and shipped to parts unknown, turned into electricity and make the lights glow all over our country.

Most of his time underground was spent on his knees with a shovel or crawling around doing the myriad maintenance chores required to keep a mine going. Imagine yourself in a tunnel only 43 inches high and you are 74 inches tall and perhaps you get some idea of his work environment. Imagine no lights in said tunnel except for the flame from a carbide lamp attached to a helmet on top of your head.

Dad worked, for many years, as part of a four man team that kept a little coal mine going there in the head of Blair Branch in Letcher County where they managed to get 30 or so tons of coal per day from way inside the earth to the light of day.

Dad and his coworkers, all of whom were like family, accomplished this feat by drilling auger holes ten or so feet into the seam of coal, tamping them with dynamite, and blasting the mineral loose, whereupon it was loaded into two-ton gondolas and pulled by ponies to the surface.

Because he spent so much time on his knees, Dad wore

heavy, steel-toed boots and "miner's socks" made of thick heavy cotton that came all the way to his knees. The toes wore out really fast and Mom spent at least one evening a week "darning" Dad's socks but that is another story.

Come Christmas, Dad got new socks that Mom would order from Spiegel's, Montgomery Ward, or Sear's and Roebuck. She'd pick out a couple of pairs on Christmas Eve and give one sock each to my three younger brothers and me and help us write our names on top of the sock.

We'd make a big deal out of it, Keeter and me, by fastening our particular sock to the fireplace mantel with a heavy nail and nail holes were already for that express purpose. Andy and Steve were too young to be interested in volume, but Keith and I were sold on the notion that the more a "stocking" held, the heavier it was apt to be, and we wanted it full and in no danger of falling into the fire.

Which is why we were only allowed to hang them on Christmas Eve. A stray spark into one of Dad's big long socks would have set the house afire. I'm reasonably sure that My Mom watched her boys go to sleep on many a Christmas Eve and then set up all night to make sure that didn't happen.

(Cont. to A3)

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RSV--The Bad Respiratory Virus

Presented by Dr. Callie Shaffer

Each winter, one of the most troublesome respiratory viruses of childhood makes the rounds. Most older children tolerate the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) well and just suffer the symptoms of a cough, sore throat, runny nose and fever.

For some children, however, the virus can be very serious. These are usually children who are between the ages of two and five months. They are old enough that they have lost the immunity they received from their mothers and too young to tolerate such a harsh virus. Children who have lung, heart or immune problems are also at greater risk of complications from RSV. One of the other problems with this virus is that it may take two or three infections before a child develops good immunity to it.

The virus is spread by coughing and close contact, such as touching hands. The virus is so common that most children have had the infection by three years of age. After this age, RSV infections are seldom a problem.

The virus causes a great deal of irritation to the lining of the lungs. Increased mucus and sloughed cells cause the tiny airways to plug up. This plugging slows the air that is leaving the lungs, so the lungs become over-expanded in a way similar to emphysema. In the more severe cases, the airways become completely plugged up and the airways collapse.

Treatment is usually aimed at reducing the symptoms and making sure a child is getting adequate oxygen. Infants often need to be hospitalized for RSV infections. A steroid syrup or shot is commonly used and can decrease the symptoms. In severe cases, an antiviral antibiotic can be used, but its usefulness is still being studied. It's good to keep stresses to a minimum.



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Poplar Grove Baptist dates back to 1869

Poplar Grove Baptist Church was organized as Brush Creek Church in an old house on the hill, northwest of Bull Pen Branch near Level Green on the last Sunday of August, 1869.

In 1873, the church was moved to its present location on Richland Road and named Poplar Grove Baptist Church.

Early church records before 1900 are very meager. Early records show Baptist being spelled "Babtist." Early church records were possibly recorded by James Hurst, Joe Hasty, Logan Ping and John Thomas Hurst.

Business meetings of the early church were held on Saturdays. At the beginning of these meetings a request was

made for the report of the harmony in the community. In some revival meetings there are records of as many as 35 being saved. We thank God for these blessings and are thankful that He is still blessing in the church today.

In the early history of the church, the Communion Service time was voted on and was usually held once a year. The early revivals were called "protracted meetings" and usually lasted 12 to 14 days with both day and night services. Bro. Ruben Hurly was granted a license to preach the Gospel at the February, 1906 business meeting. The first listed treasurer, Bro. William Hurst, was elected in December 1907. In

some parts of history, the treasurer was referred to as a collector or sometimes "treasurerman."

The first mention of the executive board was in March 1908. From early records to present, the church had always voted to send members to represent the church at Associational Meetings. In 1899 the Associational Meeting was held at Poplar Grove with J.C. Carmack as moderator, W.H. Sowder as clerk, and D.S. Devault as the minister preaching the sermon.

In 1913 the Associational Meeting was also held at Poplar Grove with A.J. Pike as moderator, J.J. Painter as clerk, and T.C. Duke as the minister

preaching the sermon.

Bro. N.T. Gibbons was ordained to preach in February, 1917.

In 1921 the Associational Meeting was again held at the church with L.D. Gooch as Moderator, J.J. Painter as clerk, and J.G. Bow as the minister preaching.

In December 1925 the first paid sexton for the church was hired for \$1 per month. In modern day, this office is known as janitor. In January 1926 the church voted to pay the pastor \$14 a trip Remember most pastors were "circuit rider preachers." A special collection for missions was received in July of 1926. The amount was \$5.10.

In September of 1926 the Rockcastle Baptist Association

(Cont. to A8)



Poplar Grove Baptist Church Pastor Jimmy Perkins preached the sermon on Sunday morning.



Members of the Men's Sunday School Class at Poplar Grove Baptist Church, who were in attendance on Sunday morning were, from left: Jim Gilbert, teacher Barry Hurst, Howard Shriver, Ronnie Thompson and Lonnie Vanzant.



The choir at Poplar Grove Baptist Church sang a special on Sunday morning. Shown above, front row from left are: Destiny Pickering, Lindsey Perkins, Naomi Gilbert, Margie Dees and Ruth Thompson. Second row, from left: Holly Kirby, Joanna Albright, Kristina Hayes, Sheila Albright, Stephanie Hurst and song leader Barry Hurst. Back row, from left: Ronnie Thompson, Jim Gilbert and Bro. Jimmy Perkins.



Members of the Pre-Kindergarten class at Poplar Grove Baptist, who were in attendance on Sunday morning, are shown above, from left: Brandy Moore, Caden Perkins, Jaden Albright, teacher Holly Kirby and Cassie Smith.



Poplar Grove Church was moved to its present location on Richland Road, in the western part of the county in 1873. (Poplar Grove Baptist Church photos by: Richard Anderkin)

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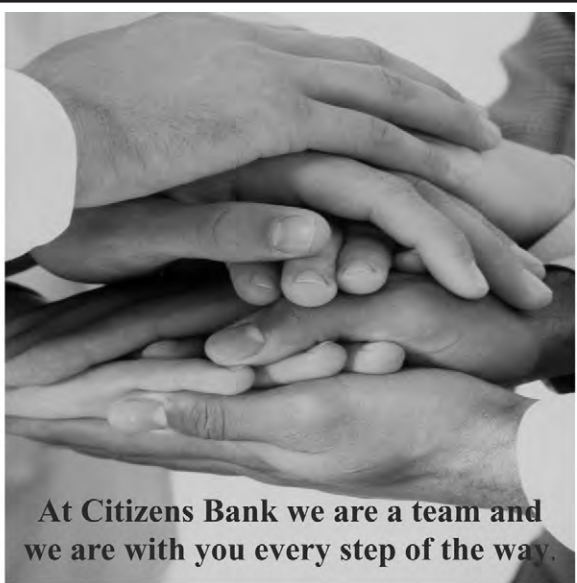
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“Poplar Grove”

(Cont. from A6)

suggested that the churches send aid to the orphans' home. After consulting with each other, the sisters agreed to send some chickens to Glendale and some fruit to Louisville. The brethren agreed to pay the freight on it.

The first listed Sunday School Superintendent was A.F. Lawrence in December 1935. At this meeting, the deacons decided to visit members and learn from each one what they cared to do towards helping in church work and services in the coming year of 1936.

An additional 1 acre of land for the cemetery was received from H.N. Denney and wife in May of 1936. On August 4th and 5th, 1936, the Associa-

tional Meetings were held at Poplar Grove with E.K. Cook as Moderator, Roy Sayers as clerk, and J.A. Bass at the minister who preached.

E.K. Cook served the church as clerk for many years and his wife Myrtle (Farley) Cook served as treasurer. The first mentioned cemetery committee consisted of Rev. N.T. Gibbons, Virgil Brown, and A.F. Lawrence in October 1936.

In March 1937, a committee, consisting of Julia Hurst, Cles Hurst and Myrtle Cook was formed to solicit money to buy songbooks. Ten gallons of white paint was purchased in April 1937 to paint the building. It was bought for \$20. In September 1939 a committee was formed to see if people in the church and community would donate material and labor to fence the cemetery.

In April 1941, the church

voted to have Vacation Bible School in June. The offering received during the school was \$4.80. On Mother's Day, May 1941, an offering of \$5.83 was received for the Baptist Hospital. Bro. James McKinney was elected caretaker of the cemetery for \$80 for 1 year in May, 1942.

Bro. Stevens from Hazard came to the church in April, 1945 on Monday through Friday nights to speak on Stewardship. On the second Sunday in July of 1945, Bro. Grubbs, and Bro. Philbeck helped conduct an All Day Meeting, emphasizing missions.

In November 1945, the church received the Thanksgiving Offering for the Orphans' Home. The amount received was \$15.94. The church agreed to contribute to Home Missions in July, 1948. A building fund was first mentioned as being organized in December, 1949. Also a visiting committee was also organized at this time. The Associational Meeting was held in 1951 at Poplar Grove with C.H. Philbeck as Moderator, E.R. Denney as clerk, and Paul Payne delivering the message.

In May 1955 the church voted to have prayer meeting on each Wednesday Night. In September 1955, the church voted to put a basement under the church and arrange for heating. A Men's Brotherhood was organized in January, 1958. Bro. Floyd Bingham was ordained to the Gospel Ministry on May 17th, 1959. In July 1962, it was discussed about the upcoming County Wide Revival. In August 1962, a World Missions Conference was discussed. In September 1966 the church decided to purchase a new pulpit and seats.

On Sunday, August 31, 1969 a Special Centennial Service was held by the church to commemorate its 100th Anniversary. Bro. Don Cummins was pastor at this time. The 1969 Associational Meeting was held at Poplar Grove with John Zupancic as Moderator, G.W. Coldiron as clerk, and J. Chrisman delivering the message. Most of the pastors were elected yearly until 1969 when they began being elected in-

definitely.

On November 11, 1970 the church voted to give 10% of each month's income to missions. In October 1971, a World Missions Conference was held. On October 17th, 1971 Bro. Jimmie McKinney surrendered to the Gospel Ministry and, on October 29th, 1972, Bro. Jimmie McKinney was also ordained to the Gospel Ministry.

The 1973 Associational Meeting at the church was led by Mike Bryant as Moderator, G.W. Coldiron as clerk, and Gene Noe delivering the sermon. On April 21, 1974, the church received a freewill offering to help restore Pleasant Run Baptist Church after it was destroyed by a tornado. In December 1975 the church voted to begin Training Union. On November 16, 1977 the congregation adopted a Constitution and By-Laws for the church. In April 1978, a 20 foot addition was added to the present church building. During this building project two Sunday School rooms, a Baptistery and two restrooms were constructed. The church also was bricked. The present plaque in the foyer was installed at that time.

In April 1979 the church voted to help pay the expenses for the Ten Commandments to be placed in each classroom in the Rockcastle County School System and every office in the Courthouse. This was done as a joint project with other churches.

The first person to be baptized in the new baptistry was Junior Reynolds on October 21, 1979. In 1980 Poplar Grove hosted the Associational Meeting with Lester Caldwell as Moderator, C. Bradley as clerk, and John Zupancic delivering the sermon.

Bro. Shelby Reynolds surrendered to the Gospel Ministry on May 15th, 1983. He was ordained on August 28th, 1983.

In December 1983 the church voted to remodel the basement, adding cabinets and a sink. Prior to this time a Sunday School room partition had been removed to form the

present fellowship room.

1985 brought the Associational Meeting to Poplar Grove with Jimmy York as Moderator. C. Bradley as clerk, and Don Cummins delivering the sermon. In December 1988 the church began W.M.U.

In May 1990, a vestibule area, ramp and a porch extension was constructed. In August 1990, the auditorium and foyer area were carpeted and, the next year, a new heating and cooling system was installed.

In March 1994 the church voted to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Church on Sunday, September 18th, 1994.

Part of the above history was also printed in the 125th Anniversary Homecoming Book published in 1994.

The following church history had been compiled to complete the church History to the present time.

In December 1994, the first ever Outdoor Live Nativity Scene was presented for the community. Also in this meeting the church licensed Eric Reynolds to the Gospel Ministry. Also, in March 1995 a Family Ministry Conference for the Rockcastle Baptist Association was held at Poplar Grove with Bro. John Lepper from the Kentucky Baptist Convention leading the conference.

On October 3, 1995, Hazel Harvey, a well-known Christian actor, came and portrayed "Fanny Crosby" for the Rockcastle Baptist Association W.M.U. Quarterly Meeting here at Poplar Grove. Also in October of 1995, Poplar Grove was host to the Associational Meeting with Ronald Sears as Moderator, Faith Payne as clerk, and Wayne Henson delivering the sermon.

On Sunday Morning May 5th, 1996 the church hosted a special service for the "Senior Adults" who were 70 and up. The service was well attended with a dinner following. Nine people were given special recognition. Eric Reynolds was ordained to the Gospel Ministry on Sunday afternoon, July 7th, 1996.

During the April, 1997 business meeting, the church voted to set aside Roy Adams and Barry Hurst to be ordained as deacons. They were ordained on Sunday afternoon, June 1st, 1997 with Bro. Harvey Pensol, pastor of Fairview Baptist Church delivering the change sermon. Bro. Rick Reynolds was the Interrogator for the service.

On August 24th, 1997 the church voted to accept Anthony and Jennifer Brock as members and also accepted him as a licensed Minister of the Gospel. September 14th, 1997 brought forth a day that many older members and friends experienced in days gone by and for many younger people a first time experience. Shortly after the Morning Worship Service, we traveled down the road to the creek to experience an outdoor Baptismal Service for Lonnie and Teresa Vanzant.

In October, 1997 a new steeple was put on the church after a storm destroyed the other one. During the November 1997 business meeting the church voted to license Stephen Reynolds to the Gospel Ministry. Once again in December 1997 the church presented the outdoor Live Nativity Scene.

In January 1998, a special offering was received to support the work of the Rockcastle Baptist Association building fund in the

building of the new Association Offices located on Highway 150 near Mt. Vernon. On December 13th, 1998 the church had a special singing service and also the dedication of all new hymnbooks purchased for the church by Kathleen Brock in memory of her late husband, Ted Brock and parents, Virgil and Ollie Denney all members of the church.

The 130th Anniversary Homecoming was held on Sunday, September 19th, 1999. On April 7th, 1999 the church voted to build a new picnic shelter. During Associational Missions Emphasis Week in May 1999, Bro. Jack Bruce, our present Associational Missionary, preached at Poplar Grove and encouraged us to higher heights in Missions. During the August 1999 Business Meeting the church voted to purchase a copy of "The Ten Commandments" to be posted in the church. Poplar Grove can be acknowledged as having supported mission work locally, in the United States, and in the foreign fields. They have also paid expenses for their pastors to attend the Kentucky Baptist Convention and also the Southern Baptist Convention.

God Blessed Poplar Grove Baptist Church with many faithful servants of the Lord. The first ministers of the early Church were "circuit rider preachers" meaning that they pastored more than one church at a time and sometimes traveled a great distance, usually by horse or by walking to the respective church. Most of them spent the night or nights with different families of the church.

Some of the pastors of the church in the past 135 years include: James M. Cummins, W.F. Meece, A.J. Pike, J.M. Cummins, W.W. Brock, W.M.C. Hutchins, D.B. Wyrick, W.G. Colson, Clyde Gooch, N.T. Gibbons, Eugene Bradley, George Fletcher, John G. Presley, Marvin Combest, R. Brown Hughes, John Killinger, C.W. Burkhart, J.L. Dennington, W.W. Kelley, R. L. Singleton, Lewis Jones, Don Cummins, Linville Coldiron, Sherman Adams, Harold Harris, Howard Mounce, (interim pastor), Gary New, and Jack Bruce.

Bro. Rick Reynolds resigned as pastor in January 2004 and, in May 2004, Bro. Perry Dobbs became pastor and was there until he resigned in July 2007. In February 2008 Bro. Jimmy Perkins became Interim Pastor, and in August 2008, became our full time pastor.

Active Deacons of the Church are: Jim Gilbert, Donald Hurst and Barry Hurst. Trustees are Ronnie Thompson and Lonnie Vanzant.

Barry Hurst is the songleader, Stephanie Hurst plays the organ and Melissa Perkins is the piano player.

Sunday School Superintendent is Jim Gilbert, assisted by Ronnie Thompson.

Ruth Thompson serves as Church Clerk and Sunday School Secretary and Joanna Albright is the church Treasurer.

Teresa and Lonnie Vanzant are the Youth Leaders.

Poplar Grove is a loving church where everyone is Special!! You are special and if you have not asked Jesus to come into your heart and be your personal Saviour we encourage you to invite him into your life today!! What a difference He can make!!

Subscribe to the Signal



Matthew Owens and mom, Amanda, are shown at Poplar Grove Baptist Church on Sunday.



Those in attendance in the Older Children's Class at Poplar Grove Baptist Church on Sunday were, from left: Zachary Hayes, Dwayne Clark, teacher Linda Zupancic and Jamie Linder.



Pauline Farley was one of many who attended services at Poplar Grove Baptist Church on Sunday.



Those in attendance in the Younger Children's Class at Poplar Grove Baptist Church are shown above, sitting, from left: Jayna Albright, teacher Joanna Albright and Kristina Hayes. Back row, from left: Lindsey Perkins and Destiny Pickering.



Derreck and Chris Hurst served as ushers at Poplar Grove Baptist Church on Sunday morning.



In attendance at Poplar Grove Baptist Church on Sunday were Emma and Johnny Atkins.



Those in attendance in the Women's Sunday School Class at Poplar Grove Baptist Church on Sunday were, from left: teacher Stephanie Hurst, Naomi Gilbert, Wendy Moore, Melissa Perkins, Louise Nicely, Teresa Vanzant and Ruth Thompson. Mrs. Perkins is Pastor Jimmy Perkins' wife.



Some of those in attendance at Poplar Grove Baptist Church on Sunday morning were from left: Violet Gates, Jamie Linder and Lyle Gates.

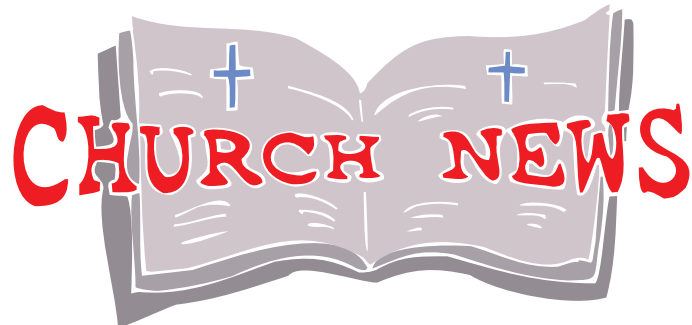


Adams - McGuire

Dwain and Janice Adams, of Brodhead, and Lonnie and Pam McGuire, of Orlando, would like to announce the forthcoming marriage of their children, Heather Nicole to Christopher Dale.

Heather is a 2004 graduate of Rockcastle County High School and will be receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Middle Grades Education in May 2009. Chris is a 2002 graduate of Rockcastle County High School and a 2006 graduate of Eastern Kentucky University with a Bachelor's Degree in Middle Grades Education. He is currently employed at Somerset Christian School.

The wedding will take place December 20, 2008 at 2:30 in the afternoon at Hickory Grove Pentecostal Church. A reception will immediately follow the ceremony at the Brush Creek Holiness Church Fellowship Hall. All family and friends are invited to attend.



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Contact Bro. Jerry Owens for transportation at 606-256-3075.

Christmas Play
Maple Grove Baptist Church will have their Christmas play Sunday, December 21st at 6 p.m. Everyone invited.

Christmas Program
There will be a Christmas Program at Roundstone Baptist Church Sun., Dec. 21st at 6 p.m. entitled "Jesus Welcome to Our World."

Christmas Eve Mass
Join us as we worship and praise our Heavenly Father for the gift of His Son. Let us come together to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Christmas Eve Mass will be held Wed., Dec. 24th at 10 p.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church, William St., Mt. Vernon. Refreshments will be served following Mass.

Christmas Play
Calloway Holiness Church will present their Christmas Play, "The Christmas Guest," Tuesday, December 23 at 7 p.m.

Live Nativity
A live nativity will be presented this Friday and Saturday at Conway Missionary Baptist Church at Conway from 6:30 to 9 p.m. each night. Please come and join us in the celebration of His birth.

Christmas Mystery
Fairview Baptist Church invites you to join us for another Fairview original -- A Fairview Christmas Mystery. *Rev. Seymore Fully, and a group of wayward children, help a community find the missing Jesus. And, to their amazement, Jesus wasn't missing at all.*

The play will be presented Sat., Dec. 20th and Sun., Dec. 21st with a prelude by Dr. Tom Seel, pianist, beginning at 6:30 p.m. and the program beginning at 7 p.m.

There will be a fellowship meal following the Saturday performance.



O Come to the Manger, O Come One & All

Live Nativity Will Be Presented This Friday & Saturday at

Conway Missionary Baptist Church

6:30 to 9:00 each night

Please join us & join in the celebration of his birth!

Everyone Welcome

Library News



Pam Chaliff

We would like to remind everyone that state tax forms will no longer be provided to the library. To request state tax forms please write to: Forms, KY Dept. of Revenue Frankfort, KY 40620 or you may call 1-502-564-3658. The library will print state forms; however there will be a fee for these forms. As far as we know at this time, the library will be receiving federal tax forms in January 2009.

The past week at Story hour the children made a Santa. At craft time the kids made snow-

flakes and then played Pictureka. Story hour is every Tuesday at 1:00pm for children ages 0-4 and craft time for kids is every Tuesday at 5:00pm for kids ages 4-10.

The library will be closed December 24 and 25 for Christmas Holiday and January 1st for New Years. The library may be closed due to danger weather conditions; if the library is closed it will be announced on WRVK. The library would like to wish everyone happy holidays.



The girls really enjoyed making their Santa.

Deadline for next week's paper is 4 p.m. this Friday

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NOTICE OF HEARING

Lease Agreement Between Rockcastle County, Kentucky and Community Trust Bank

(New Industrial / Business Building Facility Project)

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Notice of Intent to Lease from the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court requesting the State Local Debt Officer to approve the execution of certain Lease Agreement between the County and Community Trust Bank and the financial plan whereby the County proposes to enter into a lease agreement in an amount not to exceed \$2,700,000, proceeds of which will be used for a new building facility project in one of Rockcastle County's industrial parks, a hearing will be held at 1:00 pm on Monday, December 29th, 2008, on the third floor of the Rockcastle County Courthouse (CenterNet Room), at which time the fiscal court will entertain a motion to hear the second reading of the approved ordinance and subsequent lease. Further, a public hearing will be held in Frankfort, Kentucky, on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, at 2:00 pm (Eastern Time) in the Conference Room, Department for Local Government, 1024 Capital Center Drive (U.S. 60 East) to entertain the petitioner's request for this purpose and to consider whether or not said lease and financial plan should be approved.

Petitioner, Rockcastle County Fiscal Court, is publishing this notice to comply with KRS 66.310 to notify the public that the petitioner intends to enter into this lease and subsequent indebtedness in the total amount and at the terms set out herein. Specific questions about the type of project should be directed to the petitioner.

At these hearings, any taxpayer may appear and will be given an opportunity to be heard.

Buzz Carloftis
Judge-Executive
Rockcastle County

Lonnie Campbell
State Local Debt Officer
Commonwealth of Kentucky

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Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue Activity Report

December 2-15, 2008

Tuesday December 2nd—

Responded to reported residential structure fire on Blue Springs Road. Upon arrival, observed smoke coming from vacant residence. Fire units made entry, conducted a search, and extinguished fire. Pongo Fire Department assisted.

Wednesday December 3rd—

Dispatched to a vehicle fire on I-75 at the 73 mile marker. Six fire units responded. Upon arrival, observed a black Monte Carlo had been on fire under hood, but had burned itself out.

Thursday December 4th—

Responded to a single vehicle accident on Hwy 1505. Five fire units responded. Upon arrival, observed a single vehicle on its side with a single occupant trapped inside, but

not injured. Fire units assisted the patient out of the vehicle.

Friday December 5th—

Received report of a structure fire on Sand Springs Road. Seven firefighters responded with a pumper and tanker. Upon arrival, observed a mobile home fully engulfed in fire on one end.

Used approximately 3000 gallons of water to extinguish. Also, December 5th, dispatched to Arby's Restaurant to report of fire inside building. Seven firefighters responded with three fire engines.

Upon arrival, it was determined that what was believed to be fire was actually Christmas Decorations and lights reflecting off of glass.

And also on December 5th, responded to scene of previous

structure fire on Sand Springs Road. Five fire units responded. Once on scene, observed that the unburned end of the trailer had ignited and was on fire, 2000 gallons of water was used to extinguish and Pongo Fire Department assisted.

Saturday December 6th—

Mount Vernon Police requested assistance on West Main Street with a complaint of five horses out and loose in the area. Four firefighters assisted two MVPD officers with having horses removed from area.

Tuesday December 9th—

Responded to fire alarm activation at the Diner at Renfro Valley Village. When fire units arrived on scene, they found maintenance workers working on building and alarm system and no actual fire.

Wednesday December 10th—

Responded to a fire alarm activation at Rockcastle Hospital. As fire units were responding Hospital staff called 911 and said they had no fire.

Sunday December 14th—

Responded to a diesel spill at Peg's Food Mart. Seven firefighters responded with two pumpers. Upon arrival, observed that a tank in the bed of a pick up had leaked approximately 50 gallons of diesel fuel into parking lot. Fire units contained the spill.

Local Christian band to give concert for those in need

Local christian rockers 7venth Time Down (7TD) tone it down this Christmas, as they invite you to step more into the way of Jesus and GIVE to those in our community who are in need.

On Thursday, December, 18th at Northside Baptist church, 7TD will be performing a unique and worshipfull acoustic Christmas set. Admission will be a can of food, a new or gently used toy, or a new or slightly worn winter coat. There will also be an offering taken up to give to those who are in need.


Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the music, and worship will begin at 7 p.m. So come ready to share in a wonderful night of worship, love, and giving as we remember the true reason for this 2008 Christmas season.

Rockcastle County High School Academic Honor Roll



Rockcastle County High School senior Carri Hunt has a grade point average of 4.04 and is one of three students tied for the fourth highest ranking of the 207 seniors in the 2009 graduating class at RCHS. Hunt is the daughter of Hal and Carolyn Hunt of Brodhead and will attend Campbellsville College in the Fall where she will major in Math. Carri currently has an advanced placement class at RCHS in Calculus and as a junior she had advanced placement classes in English. Hunt has been a member of the RCHS Choir for four years and this year she was selected to the All-State Chorus and the All Festival Chorus, an honor she has received for two years. Hunt is also a member of the Chamber Choir, and several clubs and organizations including BETA and National Honor Society and FCA. Hunt enjoys singing and has played the Violin for the past 13 years.

Refreshments will be served following Mass



Join in singing Christmas hymns of praise

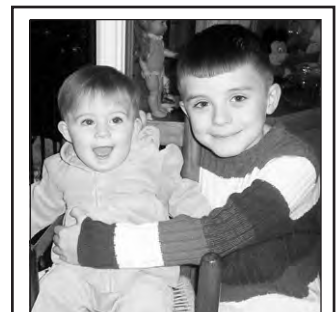
O, Come all Ye Faithful and

Join us as we worship and praise our Heavenly father for the gift of His Son. Let us come together to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve Mass

Wednesday, December 24 @ 10 p.m. at
Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church
Williams Street • Mt Vernon, Ky.

The people of Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church wish each and everyone a Blessed and Holy Christmas and a Faith Filled New Year.



It's birthday time! Ainslee celebrated her first birthday on December 7 and Keaton celebrated his eighth birthday on December 8. We are so blessed to have such wonderful children in our lives. Proud parents are Steve and Hope Renfro of Mt. Vernon. Grandparents are Joyce Renfro and Erceel Cromer. Thanks to everyone for the great presents and making their birthday special.



Happy 10th Birthday
Kacie Cromer
From
Mamaw Shirl, Jeff, Mom, Dad, Jacob & Nicholas



Lauren E. Sanders, daughter of Bob and Angela Sanders of West Chester, Oh celebrated her first birthday on Dec.5, 2008. Helping her celebrate were: grandparents, Charles and Jean Sanders and Ben and Sally Chapman; uncle David; brother, Conner; and aunt, Christie and Christie's son Ben and daughter Mia.



Lost!
Light brown Tabby, medium long hair. Reward offered. Lost in Ottawa area. Call 606-758-9882 or 859-559-9891.

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How to help a grieving friend during holidays

The holidays, especially the first ones after a loved one's death, can be especially difficult for a person who is grieving. Friends and family members may be unsure how to act or what to say to support their grieving loved one during the holidays.

In general, the best way to help those who are grieving during the holidays is to let them know you care. They need to be remembered, and they need to know their loved ones are remembered, too. Local hospice grief counselors emphasize that friends and family members should never be afraid of saying or doing the wrong thing, because making an effort and showing concern will be appreciated.

Here are some tips that grieving people have shared:

Be supportive of the way your friend chooses to celebrate the holidays. Some may wish to follow traditions; others may choose to change their

rituals.

Offer to help with tangible tasks such as baking, cleaning, or decorating. Seemingly simple tasks can be overwhelming while dealing with grief.

Invite the person to attend a religious service with you and your family.

Offer to help with holiday shopping or share your favorite catalogs or on-line shopping sites.

Invite your friend to your home for the holidays.

Inquire if your friend is interested in volunteering with you during the holiday season. Doing something for someone else, such as helping at a soup kitchen or working with children, may help him or her feel better about the holidays.

Make a donation in memory of your friend's loved one, as a reminder that his or her special person is not forgotten.

Remember to avoid telling your friend that he or she should be "over it;" grief is an individual process and there are no right or wrong ways to grieve.

If your friend wants to talk about the deceased loved one or feelings associated with the loss, LISTEN. Don't worry about being conversational.... just listen.

Remind the person you are thinking of him or her and the loved one who died. Cards, phone calls and visits are great ways to stay in touch.

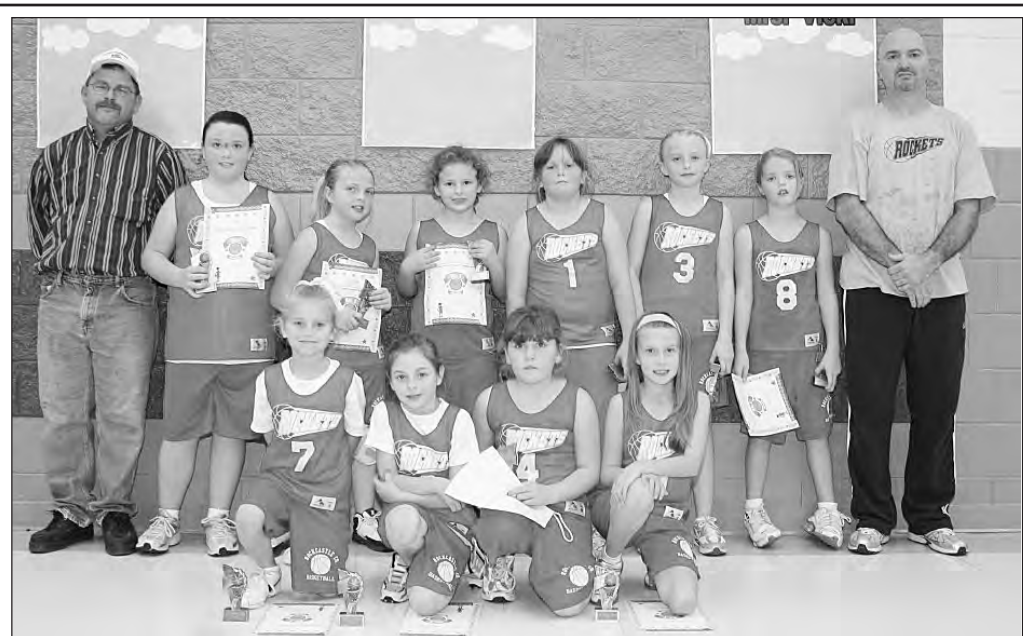
Many people are not aware that Hospice Care Plus is a valuable resource that can help people who are struggling with grief and loss. Hospices provide bereavement support to the families they serve and often offer services to other members of the community as well. For more information call Hospice Care Plus at 859-986-1500 or 1800-806-5492.



The annual Livingston Community Christmas Dinner was held on Sunday in the Livingston Homecoming Committee Room. Among the approximately 100 people who enjoyed the Christmas meal were from left: Sherry Newcomb, Billy Rash and Martha Isaacs.



Geneva and Alfred Combs enjoyed Sunday's Community Christmas Dinner in Livingston. About 100 people were in attendance. (Christmas Dinner photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Correction! The Bulldogs were this year's champs of the second and third grade division of the Girl's Little Rocket league. Team members are shown above, front row, from left: Emma Smith, Hope Holbrook, Lindsey Mink and Hannah Mullins. Back row, from left: coach Jamie Reynolds, Kristin Holcomb, Shyann Reynolds, Shelby French, Courtney Wren, Miranda Brown, Kiana Harris and coach Steve Holcomb.

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Lady Rockets trounce Madison Southern, beat Henry Clay

After losing two straight games in overtime, the Rockcastle County Lady Rockets took out their frustrations on visiting Madison Southern on Friday night, winning by 60, 87-27.

And, less than 18 hours later, the Lady Rockets picked up their third win of the season with a good road victory over Henry Clay in the Defender Classic in Lexington, winning 56-47.

In the Southern game, the Lady Rockets led 28-2 at the end of the first period and by 39 at half-time, on their way to their second victory of the season.

"We played with a little bit more intensity last week, especially in the fourth quarter of the Henry Clay game," said head coach Chrysti Noble.

"I think in time we'll get that killer instinct that all teams need to win a district and region title, but we actually do not have it yet," she said.

In the Southern game, all 14 Lady Rockets saw action and 12 got into the scoring column, led by Joanie Alexander's 17.

Angie Lawrence scored 14, followed by Sara Hammond

with 11, Mary Saylor and Nicole Locklear 9 each, Ashley Robinson 8, Sasha Bullock, 4 and Ella McQueary 4 each, Kristen Abney, Cheyenne Hensley and Sydney Arvin, 3 each and Katy Mattingly 2.

On Saturday afternoon the Lady Rockets beat a good Henry Clay team in the Defender Classic, 56-47.

The Lady Rockets had a six point lead at the half but the Lady Blue Devils pulled to within one at the end of three periods, 38-47.

However, unlike the close games against Lincoln County and Simon Kenton, the Lady Rockets played extremely well in the fourth period and pulled out the nine point victory.

The Lady Rockets had a balanced scoring attack with three players scoring in double figures, led by Robinson with 13. Lawrence got 12, Alexander 11, Saylor 9, Hammond 6 and Mattingly 2.

The Lady Rockets play at Somerset on Friday night in a district double header with the Rockets. The Lady Rockets, who are now 3-2 on the season, play the first game, which begins at 6 p.m.



Junior Jamie Todd drives to the basket in the first half of the Rockets 54-48 win over Boyle County on Friday night. Todd led his team to victory with 19 points.

Play in double header at Somerset on Friday

Rockets beat Boyle for third straight win

The RCHS Rocket basketball team finished a week on Friday night in which they won three straight games, finishing with a 54-48 win over Boyle County.

But it wasn't easy.

After senior Spencer Mullins gave the Rockets a 1-0 lead when he hit one of two free throws to start the game, because of a technical foul, the Rebels reeled off nine straight points to take a 9-1 lead. The technical foul was called on Boyle County because one of their players dunked the basketball in warm-ups.

However the Rockets closed to within three, 11-8, at the end of the first period and took a one point lead into the dressing room at half-time, 20-19.

The Rockets played even in the third period with the Rebels, but some good three point shooting, by junior Jamie Todd, helped the Rockets to lead by as much as eight in the final period, holding on for the six point victory.

"We played well enough to win, but we still made too many mistakes and we obviously weren't ready to play when the game started," said head coach Benny Blanton.

"We certainly need this upcoming week of practice to begin to pull things together, our players are still not all on the same page," Blanton said.

The Rockets were led in scoring by Todd, who had 19 points, including four three pointers.

Spencer Mullins got 10 points, Matt Bullens 9, Derek Thacker 8, Bryan Clontz, 6 and Dustin Reynolds 4.

On Thursday night the Rockets easily defeated Lynn Camp on the road, 84-61.

The Rockets jumped out to an 18 point first quarter lead and never looked back.

10 Rockets got into the scoring column with Spencer Mullins leading the way with 27.

Thacker had 11, Jared Smith and Todd 8 each, Clontz 7, Reynolds and Bullens 6 each, Kyle Riddle 5 and Matt Lunsford and Dustin Bishop, 4 each.

The Rockets will play in a district double header with the Lady Rockets on Friday night at Somerset. The Lady Rockets tip things off at 6 p.m.

The Rockets are now 3-2 on the season.



Junior Jackie Lawrence led her team in scoring again this season when she put up 17 against Madison Southern. Alexander also scored 11 in the Lady Rocket's 56-47 win over Henry Clay on Saturday.



Sophomore Sydney Arvin prepares to shoot in the Lady Rockets 87-27 win over Madison Southern on Friday night. Arvin, who scored three points, was one of 12 Lady Rockets who got into the scoring column.



Rocket senior Spencer Mullins fights for a rebound against Boyle County on Friday night. Mullins had 10 points in the Rocket win, their third straight.



Sophomore Angie Lawrence puts in two of her 14 points against Madison Southern on Friday night against Madison Southern. The Lady Rockets completely dominated Southern, winning by 60, 87-27.



Lady Rocket sophomore Ella McQueary puts up a shot in her team's win over Madison Southern on Friday night. McQueary scored four points. The Lady Rockets will travel to Somerset on Friday night for a double-header with the Rockets. Game time is 6 p.m.



Rocket point guard Bryan Clontz looks for an open man in Friday night's game with Boyle County. Clontz had 6 points in the contest, which the Rockets won, 54-48. The Rockets travel to Somerset on Friday night for a district game with Somerset in a double-header with the Lady Rockets. (RCHS photos by: Richard Anderkin)

Middle School basketball update

By: Kevin Canterbury

Last week, all three of the RCMS boy's basketball teams were in action playing Boyle County (December 8th) and Northern Pulaski (December 9th).

Also scheduled was Garrard County on the 11th but it was called off due to inclement

weather.

For the sixth grade team, Boyle proved to be too much as they beat the Middle School Rockets 36-20.

The 6th grade was led in scoring by Sam Pensol with 6. Jordan McGuiere scored 4 points, while Douglas Nicely, Blake Mullins, Dakota Hasty,

Stephen Rector, and Chase Burdette all had 2.

The sixth graders couldn't win the following night either fallins 29-23 in a close one with Northern Pulaski.

Sam Pensol led the team in scoring, putting in 11. Dakota Hasty got 6, Blake Mullins 3, Carter Blanton 2 and

Stephen Rector 1. The sixth graders are now 3-6 on the season.

The seventh graders fared a little bit better as they defeated Boyle county, but lost to Northern Pulaski.

The Rockets beat Boyle 42-

(Cont. to A13)

RCMS teams lose to Meece Tuesday night

Tuesday night, the RCMS basketball teams were in action against Meece with the sixth, seventh and eighth grade teams all coming up short.

The sixth grade team lost 48-17 in a tough match-up against Meece. They were led in scoring by Sam Pensol who had 12, Jacob McKinney got 3 and Lane Jasper added 2.

The seventh grade team didn't fair much better as they too fell to Somerset 69-35.

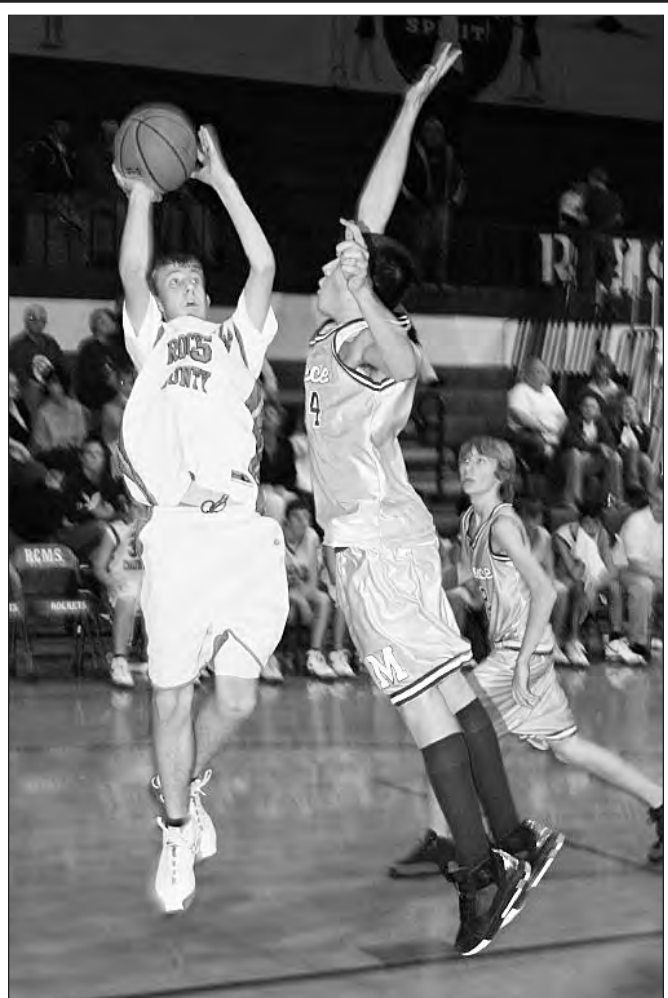
The seventh grade team's leading scorer was Corey McPhetridge with 26. Also scoring were Tyler Harper with 4, John Hughes got 3 and

Jarred Lakes had 2. The seventh grade team is now 3-8 on the year.

The eighth grade team kept it close throughout, but Meece hit their free throws near the end of the game to seal the 43-31 victory.

Leading scorer for the Rockets was Zack Poynter with 13. Ashton Arvin added 6, Ben Allen 5, Tyler Smith 3 and John Wilson and McPhetridge each had 2. The eighth grade team is now 1-9 on the season.

All three teams return to action on Thursday night when they host King Middle.



RCMS 8th grader Zack Poynter scored 13 points on Tuesday night to lead his team in scoring against Meece. The 8th grade team lost 43-31.



RCMS 7th grader Tim Renner prepares to throw the ball inbounds in the 7th grader's game with Meece on Tuesday night. The 7th grade lost 69-35. All three middle school teams will host King Middle on Thursday night. (Middle School photos by: Kevin Canterbury)



RCMS 6th grader Sam Pensol drives to the basket in his team's game with Meece on Tuesday night. Pensol led the 6th in scoring with 12 points, although they lost, 48-17.

Middle School Update

(Cont. from A12)

34 and were led in scoring by Corey McPhetridge who had 17 and Tyler Harper with 14.

John Hughes added 6, Andrew Burton 4 and Jarred Lakes 1.

The Rockets lost to Northern Pulaski 44-25, and were led in scoring again by McPhetridge with 11. Harper got 6, Lakes 4 and Hughes and Taylor Carter 2 each. The seventh grade team is now 3-7 on the year.

The eighth grade team lost both games against Boyle and Northern Pulaski, falling to Boyle by one, 40-39.

On that night, Blake Jones led with 16, Ashton Arvin got 7, Ben Allen and John Wilson

6 each, Eli Haddix 3 and Bryson Amyx 1.

The 8th graders then lost to Northern Pulaski 70-34 the following night.

Leading scorer for the Rockets was Allen with 12, Jones got 5, Haddix added 4, Amyx 3 and Arvin, Tyler Smith, Zack Poynter, John Wilson and McPhetridge all had 2 points each.

Deadline for next week's paper is 4 p.m. this Friday



Jody Kirby, right, tested before Master Eric Bullock on November 24, 2008 at the Mt. Vernon Shaolin Karate Club. He is shown here with Master Eric Bullock after passing his test from blue belt to green belt and receiving his rank advancement certificate.



C.S. McKinney, 90, killed this 5 point buck on November 8th in Rockcastle. He has been hunting for over 70 years. We are so very proud of you and love you very much! Love, your family.



Ralph Carpenter, of Mt. Vernon, killed this Cow Elk on December 13th in Harlan County. The elk field dressed 290 pounds. This was his first elk hunt. Thanks to his son, Greg and grandson, Shawn for their help on the hunt.



Give an animal a chance at life

Several adult dogs and puppies are up for adoption at the Rockcastle Animal Shelter on Deep Hollow Road, off Old Sigmon Road, at Roundstone. Above, Animal Shelter Director James Kidwell shows off a part Lab pup which is about a year old and one of the animals now available at the shelter. The adoption fee is \$20 and one of the animals at the shelter would make a great Christmas gift, plus you would be saving an animal's life. The hours at the Animals Shelter are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., For more information call (606) 256-1833.

a load of thanks

It's time to deliver our message of goodwill and gratitude to the many kind folks who have visited us this year. Have a very merry season!

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The Mt. Vernon City Council voted Monday night to purchase the above 2008 Freightliner fire truck for \$217,467.

Rockcastle gets funds for emergency food and shelter

Congressman Harold "Hal" Rogers (KY-05) announced today the release of \$448,436 in combined funding to counties throughout the Fifth Congressional District for the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program (EFS). Rockcastle's share of the funds is \$12,366.

The EFS program, administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), supplements and expands ongoing community efforts to provide shelter, food and supportive services to the nation's hungry, homeless, and people in economic crisis.

"The Christmas season is often a time of gift-giving and abundance, but many in our community are simply struggling to put food on the table, make a mortgage payment, or cover heating costs this winter," stated Rogers. "This federal infusion of funds into our communities will result in families staying together

through the holidays or a veteran making it to a doctor's appointment for medication. This Christmas, we must not forget our many blessings and continue to extend a helping hand to those around us. I am pleased to see FEMA get these funds to our communities before the New Year."

FEMA, through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program, allocates funds nationwide to the neediest areas and ensures fast, targeted response through public-private partnerships. Funds can be used for food, lodging, transportation, rent and utility assistance, and minimal community center facility repairs. Nationwide, \$200 million has been awarded to over 2,500 cities and counties across the country.

Rogers currently serves as a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee with direct oversight of FEMA. Through this role, Rogers supports important initiatives in the Fifth Congressional District.

Community Trust

(Cont. from front)

The official offer was brought to Carloftis by Blount, it had been lowered to 4% for the floor.

The loan is for a period of five years, although payments will be amortized over 15 years. After five years, the loan will have to be renegotiated. "We intend to pay this loan off as quickly as possible," Carloftis said at the meeting. The bank will hold a mortgage on the building and building site.

There is no prepayment penalty for early payment of the note unless the funds are from an outside source, such as another financial institution.

The second reading of the ordinance will be held at a special meeting of the court on Monday, December 29th at 1 p.m. Then, a public hearing will be held in Frankfort on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 2 p.m. at the Department for Local Government (see legal notice elsewhere in this week's paper).

There will also have to be a meeting in Frankfort for a hearing on the county's financing of \$2.5 million for infrastructure for the industrial park (new roads, utility lines, etc). That money is being leased through the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo).

The new 25,000 sq. ft. building, which will be located in Rockcastle Business Park South (off old 461), is scheduled to be "substantially" completed by June 1st with penalties in place to the contractor if it is not.

City Council

(Cont. from front)

questioned the funding for the Perry and Amy Mink property, went on for several minutes and became so heated that, at one point, Mayor Kirby told Smith he was out of order and that she would have him removed by police officer Brian Carter if he did not quit interrupting the meeting.

Council members Shelley Lewis, Sharon Saylor, Joe Mullins and Wayne Bullock all voted for the funding and council member Willy French, who was attending her last meeting of the council, voted against it. Council member Lonetta Daugherty was not present at the meeting.

After some further questions from Smith about the funding for the purchase of the Mink property, which adjoins the City Park on Williams Street, the council gave the Mayor authority to obtain \$175,000 in funding, also from KADD.

The Mayor again did not say how many years the loan would be for, only saying the city could take up to 40 years to pay it back, but that probably wouldn't be the case. The interest rate for that purchase will also be around 5%, Kirby said.

Council members, Lewis, Saylor, Bullock and French, voted yes on the issue and council member Mullins abstained.

After a short presentation by Fire Chief David Bales and Sales Representative Scott Sizemore, the council voted unanimously to purchase a new fire truck for the city.

Chief Bales told the council the truck was needed because neither of the two city trucks will draft (i.e., pull water from another source such as a pond, lake, pool, etc.), which will eventually cause the city's fire rating to go higher, increasing insurance premiums in the city.

The purchase price of the new truck, which is fully equipped, will be \$217,467.

Sizemore told the council that his company would provide a lease/purchase agreement for a ten year period, at an interest rate of 4.89 percent.

The council obligated themselves to a \$28,011.92 per year payment for the next ten years beginning in December of 2009.

Bales said the county truck, which his department uses on county runs, was in very good shape, but could not be listed as the primary truck for the city.

12 firefighters were in attendance at the meeting for the council's vote.

The council also voted to purchase a new backhoe for the city's water and sewer department at a cost of \$74,478.00.

Mayor Kirby told the council that \$100,000 had already been budgeted in the water and sewer budget this year for the purchase.

Water Superintendent Dennis McClure told the council, the current backhoe is a 1985 model and "stays torn up a lot."

And finally, the council voted unanimously to raise rates for the city's approximately 2,000 water customers by 3.5 percent.

City engineer Luther Galloway pointed out that the city had not raised rates for three

years and that besides the backhoe, the current meter reading system is obsolete and would have to be replaced.

"These automated reading systems are very expensive and will require significant capital expenditures to convert the existing meter reading system to utilize the automated equipment," Galloway told the council.

The engineer also said replacement of current equipment used by the department, is near the end of its useful life, and the cost to replace it could exceed \$500,000.

In other business, the council voted to give each city employee a \$25 Christmas bonus.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the council is January 19th, when new council members Don Jones and Jackie Wayne Weaver will be sworn-in.

Too Late To Classify

For Rent: 2 bedroom mobile home, Quarry St., Mt. Vernon. Stove and refrigerator furnished. No pets. \$300 month/\$200 deposit. 606-308-4592. 5xntf

The City of Mt. Vernon will be taking applications for the position of Police Officer Recruit. The pay scale for the position is negotiable, depending on training and experience. Applicants must be able to pass the Police Officer Professional Standards Testing in Richmond, Kentucky. The City of Mt. Vernon will be taking applications until Monday, December 29, 2008. All applications should be turned into City Hall Monday through Friday, during regular business hours.

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The Rockcastle County High School Band Boosters in conjunction with the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame presents:

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- * Enjoy Holiday Music, Meet Santa and his Elves, and take a tour at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame!

Friday, December 19th
Tours at 4:30 and 6:00
Tickets on sale at the
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Children-\$5.00 with paying adult
For more information, contact:
Robert Lawson at 256-1000
or Anita Nation at 256-4816

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Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, December 18, 2008

130 participate in 5th Annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk

A cold and snowy morning didn't slow down any of the 130 runners and walkers who participated in Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center's 5th Annual Jingle Bell 6K on Dec. 6, making it the biggest to date.

The Run/Walk featured some fun attractions this year with Rudolph braving the weather, lead-

ing the pack on his bicycle at the start of the race.

More than \$2,700 was raised. Half will go to Rockcastle Hospital's Miracle Fund; half to Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation's resident fund which provides assistance to improve the quality of life of long-term care patients.

"This event continues

to grow every year," said Dwain Harris, Rockcastle Hospital Community Relations, "We're proud to see people come together to benefit such a good cause."

The Run/Walk attracted both local partici-

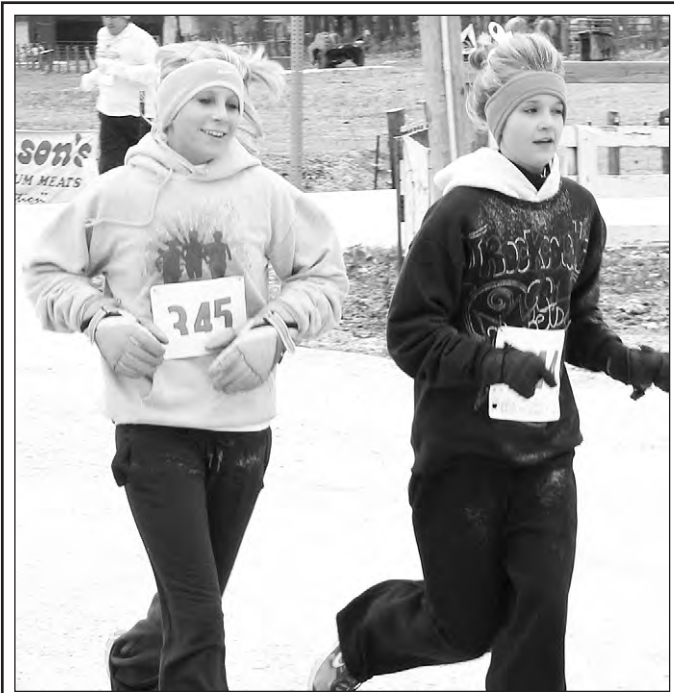
pants and participants from cities including London, Cynthiana, Lexington, Hyden, Somerset, Berea and Richmond. Those gathered in Renfro Valley were given door prizes including a painting penned by resident

Jody Adams.

Individual overall male winner was Laban Towery, of Mt. Vernon, with a time of 23:25. Individual overall female winner was Alex Bunch, of Stanford, with a time

of 26:09.

Rockcastle Hospital and Rockcastle Health and Rehab wish to thank all participants, volunteers and sponsors that helped to make this event a success.



RCHS track team members, Laura Dollins, left, and Molly Coffey, were two of the 130 who participated in the 6K Jingle Bell Run/Walk at Renfro Valley on December 6th.



Kacie Dotson opens a present she collected along the path of the 6K Run/Walk at Renfro Valley on Saturday, December 6th. Some of the gifts included money.



"Rudolph" Robbie Taylor, a Rockcastle Hospital Physical Therapist, led the pack of runners and walkers at the 5th annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk. (Photos by: Richard Anderkin and hospital staff).



Some of the volunteers who helped participants register for the 5th annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk on December 6th were, from left: Ann Abney, Activities Director at Rockcastle Hospital, Susan Brown, Rockcastle Hospital Community Relations and Sharon Cunagin, Rockcastle Health and Rehab Activities Director.



Local runner James Bullens signs in for the 5th annual 6K Jingle Bell on December 6th. Volunteer Carolyn Browning, right, puts the finishing touches on a sign concerning the Run/Walk.



100 runners participated in the 5th annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk at Renfro Valley on December 6th. Leading the runners out of the starting gate, were from left: Alex Bunch, James Bullens, Laban Towery, Kim Yong, Debbie Biddle, Ken Roark, Kevin Morgan and Cody Cox. Bunch was the overall female winner of the 6K Race/Walk with a time of 26:09 and Towery was the overall male winner with a time of 23:25.



Nicholas Estes, left, and Troy "Bonehead" McClure, center, led the 30 walkers out the parking lot at Renfro Valley during 6K Jingle Bell Run/Walk held on December 6th. Over \$2,700 was raised by the 130 total participants at the 5th annual event.

News from the Rockcastle Courthouse

District Civil Suits

Midland Funding LLC vs. Larry D. Benge, \$819.44 plus claimed due.

Marriage Licenses

Rebecca Annalynn Davis, 27, Mt. Vernon, student, to John Burch Richardson IV, 25, Mt. Vernon, student. 12/2/08.

Elizabeth Scarborough, 20, Orlando, SRNA to Nathan Kyle Doan, 23, Brodhead, factory. 12/03/08.

Kathern Christy Michelle Willis, 22, Mt. Vernon, Walmart to Dwight Joshua Couch, 26, Mt. Vernon, mechanic. 12/05/08. Emily Florissa Cromer, 24, Crab Orchard, SRNA to Johnathon George Rader, 20, Orlando. 12/08/08.

Kassie Renee Brock, 18, Crab Orchard, housewife to James Lee Seals, 20, Mt. Vernon, transmission repair. 12/10/08.

Bethany Brook Taylor, 19, Brodhead, student to Andrew Justine Gilbert, 24, Brodhead, welder. 12/10/08.

Circuit Civil Suits

Lontonia Tillery vs. Richard Tillery, complaint for medical support.

Edward W. Brock vs. Joyce Ann Brock, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Lora Lambert Boyd vs. Stephen C. Boyd, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Cabinet for Health and Family Services, ex rel Sandra Vanwinkle vs. Randy Vanwinkle, complaint for child support and medical support.

Cabinet for Health and Family Services, ex rel Angela Short vs. Colen D. Short, complaint for child support and medical support.

Community Trust Bank vs. Greg Richards, et al, \$45,034.33 plus claimed due.

Shannon Melissa Shriver vs. Howard Paul Shriver, petition for dissolution of marriage.

ing motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs and failure to produce insurance card, bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to appear (fta).

Willie Bryant: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, \$200 fine and costs, service fee, 30 days operator license suspension.

Brent M. Downs: speeding, \$90 fine and costs; improper passing, \$100 fine/suspended; reckless driving, \$100 fine.

Jennifer L. Hogenboom: no/ expired registration plates, \$25 fine and costs.

Speeding: Alborz Hosseinpour, \$16 fine plus \$133 costs; James R. Phillips, \$22 fine plus costs; Jeffrey C. Vieson, \$32 fine plus \$133 costs;

Krista Nicole Roberts: license not in possession, \$50 fine and costs.

Joseph Dale Morris: alcohol intoxication in public place, \$25 fine and costs; contempt of court, 5 days in jail/concurrent with time now serving.

Boyd J. Smith: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, \$350 fine plus costs, \$325 service fee, 12 months operator license suspension and seven days in jail; driving on suspended license, 7 days/concurrent; failure to maintain insurance, 5 days/concurrent.

Margie Tucker: theft by unlawful taking, \$250 fine and costs.

Lettie D. Winchester: theft by unlawful taking, \$250 fine and costs.

Thomas Daugherty: alcohol intoxication, \$50 fine and costs.

John B. Stamper: alcohol intoxication in public place, bw issued for fta.

Zachery T. Thompson: alcohol intoxication in public place, \$50 fine and costs.

Juan J. Alarcon: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, \$200 fine plus costs, \$325 service fee, 30 days operator license suspension.

Todd A. Rikas: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, \$200 fine and costs, \$325 service fee, 30 days operator license suspension.

Billie J. Anderson: assault, \$100 fine and costs.

Shaun K. Anderson: assault, \$100 fine and costs. Lydia Darlene Blackburn: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, \$200 fine and costs, \$325 service fee, 30 days operator license suspension.

Douglas A. Blackmore: no/ expired registration plates, \$25 fine and costs; insurance card not in possession, \$50 fine.

Mary McCormick: use/possession drug paraphernalia, \$100 fine and costs plus 10 days in jail/conditionally discharged.

Leonard R. Lefferson: overlength/overwidth semi-trailer (separate counts), \$10 each charge plus \$133 costs.

Heather Maloney: theft by unlawful taking, \$250 fine and costs.

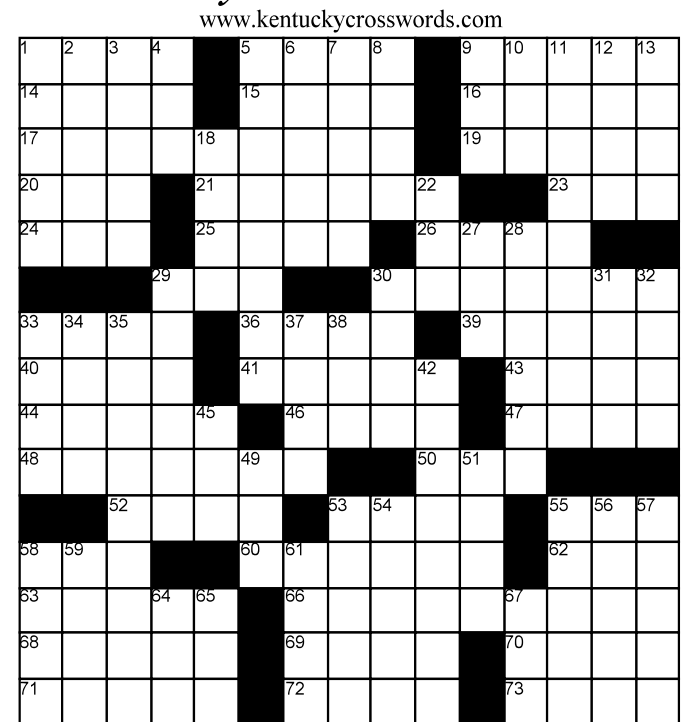
Forest L. Johnson: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, \$200 fine plus costs, \$325 service fee, 30 days operator license suspension and ADE.

Maranda Nicole Richards: fines/fees due (\$346.97 and \$479.25), bw issued for fta.

Lee Rose: drinking alcoholic beverages in public place, bw issued for fta.

Christopher E. Stewart: alcohol intoxication in public place, bw issued for fta.

Kentucky Crossword # 393



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ACROSS
1 NBA team that drafted Kyle Macy and Rajon Rondo
5 Tiny spider
9 Kentucky author
14 Consumer
15 Magoffin Co. hamlet, or always
16 Angry
17 KY county, home to Hopkinsville and Fort Campbell
19 Country estate
20 Title of Elijah Craig, Kentucky bourbon developer: Abbr.
21 Olden days deliverers
23 Calendar square
24 Bard's before
25 Young girl
26 Simple
29 Roman deity
30 Whitesburg, KY is this county's seat
33 Attentive
36 Enthusiasm
39 Kentuckian, helped the Pittsburgh Pirates win the 1925 World Series
40 Fertilizer
41 Set of values
43 Sit for a photo
44 Kind of bean
46 Blackjack
47 Scraped (out)
48 Quilt City, USA
50 German river
52 Jump
53 Certain
55 Short title for Hal Rogers
58 Berea College
60 Lacked
62 U.N. arm
63 Kentuckian Johnny Depp, for one
66 Famous archaeological site in Ballard County, Mounds
68 TV's Morgenstern
69 Fencing sword
70 Narrow opening
71 Bank contents
72 Parched
73 Addition column
DOWN
1 Bolivian capital
2 Founder of Lexington's first theater
3 Mettle
4 Lankan
5 KY county named for KY's 10th governor, "Old Stone Hammer"
6 Crawling vines
7 Cardinals, Wildcats, and Hilltoppers, e.g.
8 Sea bird
9 Big Ick Weaver of WKU
10 Baseball stat
11 Seat of Elliott Co., KY
12 Greek portico
13 Mysterious: Var.
18 Farm building
22 Maiden name indicator
27 Kind of card
28 Kentuckian, defendant in the famous "Monkey Trial"
29 There's one of
Man o' War at the Kentucky Horse Park
30 Luau souvenirs
31 Irish offshoot
32 Kentuckian, Supreme Court Justice, (1938-57)
33 Lexington arena
34 Opera solo
35 Legend claims KY's first tobacco crop grown in this county
37 Hankering
38 Pi follower
42 An Iroquoian people, or a Lawrence Co. spot
45 Wood sorrel
49 Spring mo.
51 Whimper
53 Marsh bird
54 Stomach woe
55 Antique firearm, Kentucky
56 Sprite-like
57 Kentuckians Jim Wayne Miller and James Baker Hall
58 Calumet in the Bluegrass, for one
59 Mammoth Cave's longest river
61 Dazzles
64 Lyric poem
65 Kentuckian, opera baritone William
67 Believer's suffix



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Notice

to all property owners bordering Lambert Road

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court recognizes the need to widen and improve Lambert Road due to increased traffic. **If you own property that borders Lambert Road please contact** Paralegal Kathy Robinson at the County Attorney's office at 606-256-2730 to draw up an easement so that the County can begin work. If you have any questions, feel free to contact secretary Amanda Owens at the County Judge Executive's office at 606-256-2856.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and desire to help us improve Lambert Road.

Sincerely,

Buzz Carloftis, County Judge Executive
Jan Stevens, Magistrate of the Fourth District

Deeds Recorded

Mikhael and Callie Shaffer, property on Sowder School Road, to Shannon McFerron. Tax \$2.50.

Jennifer Ann and David Wise and David Paul Hansel, exec., property in Rockcastle County, to David Paul Hansel. Tax \$9.

Carolyn K. Powell, property in Rockcastle County, to Stephen and Jill Ponder. No tax.

Indian Branch Ranch, Inc., property in Rockcastle County, to Rick and Sonja McGuire. Tax \$8.30.

District Court

12/08-10

Hon. Jeffrey S. Lawless

Charles F. Ashcraft: operat-

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Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director



After the Jingle Bell 6K Run/Walk, Dwain Harris, with Rockcastle Hospital Community Relations, left, presented the fastest family award to the Bowling family from London, Melissa, John and Michael.

Deadline for next week's paper is 4 p.m. this Friday

Request for Referendum
The Pork Checkoff Program, was implemented September 5, 1986, as authorized by the Pork Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act of 1985 (Act). The purposes of the Pork Checkoff Program are to:

- strengthen the position of pork and pork products in the marketplace
- develop and expand markets for pork and pork products.

AMS will conduct a Request for Referendum among eligible pork producers and importers of hogs, pigs, pork, and pork products to determine if those persons want a referendum on the Pork Checkoff Program. The Request for Referendum is being conducted as a result of a settlement of a lawsuit entered into February 28, 2001, with USDA and the Michigan Pork Producers As-

sociation, Inc., et al. (Plaintiffs). Eligible producers and importers will be able to participate from December 8, 2008, through January 2, 2009. Participation is voluntary, and only individuals who desire a referendum on the Pork Checkoff Program should participate.

County Committee Election
The Rockcastle County Committee election ballots were tabulated on December 4, 2008. CED, Warden Alexander, COC member, Gary Burdette, COC advisor, Brenda Parsons and Temporary, Marcella Lovell, participated in the tabulation of the votes. Final tabulation of the ballots for LAA #3 was as follows:

John D King	93 votes
Stephen Towery	54 votes

John D King was declared the winner with Stephen Towery being the 1st alternate. The 2009 Rockcastle COC

members will be: Gary Burdette, Charlie Mink and John D King.

Sales and purchases of land
Producers who have purchased or sold land should inform the FSA office of the change. A copy of the deed or land contract sales is required to update FSA records with correct ownership.

Producers are also reminded to inform the FSA office of any change of address and bank account changes.

REMEMBER: FSA's records are only as current as producers provide.

Bank account changes
If your bank account number changes or there is a change in your banks name notify FSA immediately to ensure payments reach your account timely.

This is very important to
(Cont. to B8)

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Wilson's Auto Repair: Brakes, belts, hoses, tune-ups, major and minor repairs. Free estimates. Call Brian Wilson, 256-9283. 3x4p

Overbay's Handyman Service. All home repair and tree cutting. 606-308-9549. 51tfn

Jonathan Collins Remodeling. No job too big or too small. Free estimates 606-256-5459. ntf

Jim Sandusky Roofing: Free estimates. Cell 1-859-983-7877. 40tfn

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For Sale: 2007 Suzuki Reno hatchback, 4 door, AC, CD player, power windows, excellent condition, bumper to bumper warranty. \$8,800. 758-9605 after noon. 42tfn

For Sale: 51 Chevy, two door, original, runs good. \$2,500; 1999 Ford Dually, extended cab, 7.3 diesel, 70K, \$12,500; 2004 Futian Tractor, 3 cyl. diesel, 4WD, front end loader, \$4,800; 2007 model 14x7x7 enclosed trailer - like new, \$3,800; 1964 Ford dump truck, only 39K, \$2,500; 2000 Chevy, 4WD, \$8,500; 49 Ford street rod, \$10,000; 1972 Chevy pick-up, \$2,000; 1989 Dodge camper van, \$3,800. Also several farm tractors and equipment. Several riding lawn mowers. 606-256-4739 or 606-308-4739. 4x2p

Notices

Notice is hereby given that Dorthea Barnett Kirby, 407 Crutcher Pike, Richmond, Ky. 40475 has been appointed executrix of the estate of Clyde Roland Barnett on the 15th day of December, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Dorthea Barnett Kirby or to Hon. John D. Ford, 45 East Main St., P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 15, 2009 at 11 a.m. 5x3

Notice is hereby given that Gary D. Kirby, 239 Wildflower Lane, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed guardian of Gary Lee Kirby on the 10th day of December, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Gary D. Kirby on or before June 10, 2009 at 11 a.m. 5x2

Notice is hereby given that Jeffrey Sampson, 3598 Burnt Ridge Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed executor of the estate of Wanda Sampson on the 2nd day of December 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Jeffrey Sampson or to Hon. Frankie C. Blevins, Jr., Blevins Law, 400 Richmond Rd. N., Ste. C, Berea, Ky. 40403 on or before June 3, 2009 at 11 a.m. 4x3



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For Sale: AKC registered Boxer pups. 256-4500. 4x3

For Sale: AKC registered 6 week old Golden Retrievers.

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For Sale: AKC registered Golden Retrievers. Ready for Christmas. Parents on premises. Wormed and first shots. \$200. 606-256-3637. 5x2p

For Sale: CKC Registered Black Lab Pups. \$150. Chris Hurst. 859-200-7114.

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Lost/Found

Lost: Brown and black Shepherd in area of Philadelphia United Baptist. Reward offered. 606-308-1203. 5x1

NOTICE SUMMARY OF LEASE ORDINANCE

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court, at a meeting held on December 11, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., read the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A LEASE FOR THE FINANCING OF THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, AND EQUIPPING OF A BUILDING IN ONE OF THE COUNTY'S INDUSTRIAL / BUSINESS PARKS IN A MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,700,000; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT AND SECURITY OF THE LEASE; CREATING A SINKING FUND AS SECURITY FOR THE LEASE; AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SUCH LEASE.

It is hereby certified that the foregoing provides for approval of a lease with Community Trust Bank for financing certain public improvements and provides a general obligation pledge to assess sufficient taxes to comply with the obligations to pay lease payments.

General Obligation Pledge. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Commonwealth and Chapter 66 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, as amended, the obligation of the Lessee created by the Lease shall be a full general obligation of the Lessee and, for the prompt payment of the Lease payments, the full faith, credit, and revenue of the Lessee are hereby pledged.

A complete copy of the Ordinance may be reviewed at the office of the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court Clerk, 205 East Main, Mt. Vernon, Kentucky 40456.

County of Rockcastle
By: /s/ Patricia Martin
Rockcastle Fiscal Court Clerk

Buzz Carloftis
Rockcastle Judge Executive
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“Sounds of the Season” a resounding success

Submitted by A. B. Sharpe

A Standing Room Only crowd gathered Monday evening to enjoy the Sounds of the Season concert at the High School Auditorium. The RCHS Music Department presented its 2nd annual Christmas Concert featuring the RCHS Concert Band and the RCHS Chorus. Despite nasty weather and a scary forecast, the overflowing crowd was attentive and appreciative and a festive air was all-encompassing. The doors opened to an enticing array of baked goods and other snacks as well as a delicious unending punch. The cookies with cranberries and white chocolate baked by Melissa Daugherty were especially scrumptious.

The band commenced with an inspiring “Santa’s Christmas Symphony”. The RCHS Combined Chorus followed with several selections including “Baby, It’s Cold Outside”, “Winter Wonderland”, and “Santa’s on His Way Medley”. The Brass Choir then gathered center stage and enchanted us all with their charming renditions of “O Come Emmanuel” and “Christmas Bells”. The entire band reassembled on stage and played “Fantasy on Greensleeves”, “The Christmas Song”, and “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”.

After a brief intermission, the second half of the show got underway with the Chamber Choir singing “Go Tell the News”, “Believe”, and the “Carol of the Bells”. These beguiling renditions were followed by the full band playing a resounding “Rudolph’s Christmas Concert”. The audience was tickled at the sight of Mr. Greg Daugherty conducting in a pair of antlers he had donned for the occasion.

A truly exceptional and delightful version of “Twas the Night before Christmas” was then presented by the RCHS Drama Department. The cleverly integrated musical accompaniment, provided by the band, became another most captivat-

ing character in the comical skit. An authentically jolly Santa, played by Nicky Shelton, kept everyone laughing. This merriment was followed by several Christmas Carols led by the entire choir. The audience joined in and the combined effects of all the voices personified the spirit of the season.

The charismatic Ms. Anita Nation, representing the Band Boosters, presented Mr. Daugherty with tickets, from the 2008-09 seniors, to the Kentucky Center for the Arts in Louisville. This was in appreciation for all his dedication and hard work, leading them on, always above and beyond. Appreciation was also expressed to Ms. Cassandra Smith, Mr. Josh Ott, Ms. Amber Thacker, Jessica Stallsworth, Tasha Ramsey, and Matt Durham. The members of the RCHS Arts Department consistently and attentively inspire our kids to reach for their stars. Their tireless efforts in sharing these talents with the community enrich us all.

The RCHS Concert Band gave an outstanding presentation of the “Pilgrim’s Chorus” last Sunday evening. They were the guest performers of the Central Kentucky Concert Band in their show “Back to Bayreuth”, which featured the music of Richard Wagner. For those who were not able to be there, you missed a fabulous evening of exhilarating musical performances and the delightfully entertaining conductor, Dr. Peter Larue. All of us in attendance were mesmerized by the solo performance of Kenny Meeker on the piccolo. I have never seen fingers move that fast! Our own RCHS band was so awed that they were the first to jump to their feet in a standing ovation. As always, the RCHS Concert Band impressed all gathered with their comportment and good manners. Their flawless performance and sophisticated demeanor was profusely complimented by all those congregated at the reception following the show. This experience of

rehearsing and playing with the Central Kentucky Concert Band has excited several of our youth to the possibilities of musical pursuit long after high school band. The CKCB are all ages and from all walks of life and they continue to make a joyful noise, including a tuba player who has played the same tuba since 1930. Truly inspirational to those just beginning!

Tonight, several members of the RCHS Concert Band are also performing with the Middle School Band. The RCMS Band students and the RCMS Chorus are presenting their annual Christmas Concert. This is the first time the 6th graders will be playing in public. Admission is free and this year it is being held in the High School Auditorium. The show begins at 6:30pm.

The RCHS Brass Choir will finish this season’s offerings on Friday night, December 19th. You don’t want to miss their performance! They are the featured entertainment for the Christmas Around Town Holiday Tour. The Rockcastle County High School Band Boosters in conjunction with the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame is presenting the first annual Christmas Around Town Holiday Tour. The tours, available at 4:30pm and 6:00pm, begin at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley and include visits to homes and businesses around town. Each home or business will feature different activities—caroling, sweet treats, crafts and more. The tour ends at the Hall of Fame where the RCHS Brass Choir will be playing Christmas Music. Santa and his elves will also be on hand with treats for adults and children. The ticket price is \$10 for adults and only \$5.00 for children, with a paying adult. The ticket price also includes a tour of the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Renfro. Tickets are available now at the Hall of Fame and at RCHS. For more information call Robert Lawson at 256-1000 or Anita Nation at 256-4816.

“Ag News”

(Cont. from A4)

those receiving FSA payments as payments can be delayed if we are not aware of changes to your account or routing numbers.

Spousal authority

A husband and wife may sign FSA and CCC documents on behalf of each other UNLESS written notification is on file in the FSA office denying a spouse this authority.

Rural Development

The Rural Development Representative with concern to low income housing loans will be in Rockcastle County at the Rockcastle FSA office the fourth Tuesday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Office closure

The Rockcastle County Service Center, FSA and NRCS Offices, will be closed Thursday, December 25, 2008 in observance of Columbus Day and Thursday, January 1, 2008 in observance of New Years Day. Offices will reopen on Friday during normal business hours 7:30 AM- 5:00PM.

Important program dates

Conservation Reserve Program Continuous signup continues

Quality Crop Disaster Signup continues

Farm Ownership Loans, Farm Operating Loans, Limited Resource Loans

Farm Storage Facility Loan Interest-3.000% December 2008

Tobacco Transition Payment Program -6.000% December 2008 (Maximum Discount Rate)

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program.

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Bookmobile Schedule

No service week of Dec. 22nd.

Mon., Dec. 29th: Spiro, Level Green, Willailla, Country Care.
Tues., Dec. 30th: Ottawa and Bee Lick.

Dedication Postponed

A ribbon-cutting ceremony, scheduled for Dec. 20th at Quail Park, has been postponed to a later date.

Project Graduation Meeting

There will be a Project Graduation 2009 meeting Monday, Jan. 5th at 6:30 in the high school cafeteria. Meetings will follow on the first Monday of each month. All parents/guardians of seniors are urged to attend.

Health Department Holiday Hours

The Rockcastle County Health Department will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 25 and 26 for the Christmas Holidays and January 1 and January 2 for New Year’s.

Courthouse Holiday Hours

The Circuit Court Clerk, County Court Clerk, PVA and Sheriff’s offices will be closed Wed., Dec. 24th, Thurs., Dec. 25th, Fri., Dec. 26th and Sat., Dec. 27th for the Christmas Holidays. The same offices will be closed Thursday, Jan. 1st, Friday, Jan. 2nd and Sat., Jan. 3 for the New Year’s Holiday.

Holiday Tour Dec. 19th

The first annual Christmas Around Town Holiday Tour will be held Friday, December 19th. Tickets are on sale at The Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and at Rockcastle High School. The tour includes holiday music, crafts, caroling, Santa and more! For more information, contact Anita Nation or Janice Miller at 606-256-4816 or call the Hall of Fame at 256-1000.

NAMI Meeting

There will be a NAMI meeting Thurs., Dec. 18th from noon to 1 p.m. at the Comprehensive Care Center in Mt. Vernon.

RCIDA Meeting

The Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority holds its regular meeting the first Monday of each month that noon on the third floor of the courthouse.

Historical Society Hours

Rockcastle Historical Society is open Mondays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the RTEC garage building. Due to the holidays, regular monthly meetings will not be held in Dec. Meetings will resume in Jan., 2009.

NA Women’s Meeting

The Women’s NA Serenity Group of Mt. Vernon meets each Monday at 8 p.m. at the Christian Appalachian Project Community Center, 64 Beiting Lane, Mt. Vernon. Open meeting - non-smoking.

Women’s Narcotics Meeting

There will be a Women’s Narcotics Anonymous Meeting every Monday evening at 8 p.m. at the Community Center, sponsored by Christian Appalachian Center. For more information, contact the Healing Rain Center at 256-5810.

Attention people with Medicare:



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Christmas Basket program helps 128

See Page B-6

Lady Rockets beat up on Somerset

See Page A-12



Mount Vernon Signal

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Toys for Tots program is a success again this year...



Over 120 families and approximately 250 children were treated Saturday at the Rockcastle County High School through the local Toys for Tots program. Several volunteers, young and old, helped distribute the toys from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the top photo from left are: Loren Reynolds, Morgan Campbell, Alissa Snyder, Kyle Robinson, Jacob Loudermilk, Zach Loudermilk, Justin Poynter, Marie Poynter, Kara Canterbury, Sara Burdine and Dakota Molina. Back row, from left, are: Ryan Loudermilk, Brittany Blair, Sara Snyder, Lisa Burdine, Amy Burdette, Jon Burdette, Michelle Robinson and Sam Dotson. Front row, from left: Anna and Russell Poynter.

Mayor Kirby criminal case has pre-trial conference date

Rockcastle District Judge Scott Lawless set a pre-trial conference date of February 23rd for the criminal case against Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby.

The court action came during Monday's regular session of Rockcastle District Court.

Kirby, who did not attend the proceedings, was represented by her attorney, Jerry Cox.

Kirby was arrested September 23rd of this year and charged with Official Misconduct, first degree, a Class A misdemeanor.

The Mayor filled a \$500 cash bond at the time of her arrest and was arraigned in Rockcastle District Court on October 20th.

Kirby was charged with official misconduct after Rockcastle County School Superintendent Larry Hammond requested a warrant for her arrest from County Attorney Billy Reynolds.

Hammond said in an earlier interview that he had asked for the warrant for Kirby after she

instructed city employees to do away with limestone rock that belonged to him.

Hammond said the rock was in a wall in front of Henry and Phyllis Hines' home, which is located next to his home on Richmond Street in Mt. Vernon, and that Phyllis Hines had told him he could have the rock.

The rock was going to be removed to make room for the new poured concrete wall, as part of the sidewalk project recently completed on that street.

Hammond said Kirby instructed city employees to dump the rock into Lake Linville, where city employees were dumping other debris from the sidewalk project, after she (the Mayor) told him that she would have city employees bring the rock to his home.

Hammond said that city employees had originally taken the rock from the wall to property owned by the Mayor, while he (Hammond) was out of

(Cont. to A9)

Christmas program is a partnership with community

Nearly 100 children will receive gifts from county's DCBS office

Imagine for just a moment that you are a child away from your family and community at Christmas.

Stretch your imagination further in that you have little to no contact with family and friendly familiar faces.

You likely feel lonely, disconnected and depressed. Now imagine receiving beautifully wrapped gifts, especially for you from a friend, delivered by your social worker who remains your only connection to the community.

"Is that for me?" is a com-

ment frequently heard by workers as they deliver gifts, along with the observation that often children choose not to open the gifts immediately so they can admire the packages themselves longer.

Now imagine a community that is not limited to defining itself in terms of the ability to draw new industry or initiate improvement projects but a community that is best measured by the capacity to give to its least advantaged and most

(Cont. to A9)

Variety of weather in county in December

During the first 22 days of December, either rain or snow has been recorded on 15 of those days.

So far, a total 4.10 inches of rain and an inch of snow has been recorded at the Cox Funeral Home Weather Station in Mt. Vernon.

Weatherman Bud Cox said the recorded low temperature for the month was this Monday morning, December 22nd,

when the mercury dropped to 3 degrees. Cox said that tied the low for the year, which was recorded on January 26, 2008.

The recorded high temperature for the month was 66 on the 19th, three days before the recorded low.

In November, 2.98 inches of rain and snow was recorded at the weather station, adding to

(Cont. to A9)

6,000 food items collected at Rockcastle Middle

Each year, during the holiday season, Rockcastle County Middle School conducts an annual food drive to benefit the local food and clothing mission in the community.

Their goal for this year was 2,000 food items. The students and staff surpassed this goal by bringing in approximately 6,000 food items.

"We are so very blessed to have a school that, even in difficult economic times, under-

stand that when we give to others we receive so much in return," said RCMS principal Jason Coguer.

"Whether it's donating food or helping cancer patients at the local hospital, RCMS students always come through in a big way. The phrase 'more than just a building' is often used at RCMS to convey the love for others that is not only felt, but is shown," he said.



Some of the staff members at the local DCBS Protection and Permancy Office in Mt. Vernon are shown above with just a few of the items their office will distribute this Christmas to needy children. From left, are: David Townsend, Terri Pushell, Joyce Cummins, Amy Yates and Supervisor Cheryl Franklin. Not present were: Jennifer White and Kayce Storm. (Front page photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Over 6,000 food items were collected by students and staff at the Rockcastle County Middle School during their annual food drive. Shown above, from left are: Addison Atkin, Ashton Arvin, John Hughes, McKenzii Todd, Hannah Sowder, Principal Jason Coguer, Leshia Cromer, Robert Phillips, Tammy Miller and Gordon Pope.

Editor's Notes

By Richard Anderkin



As I traveled throughout the county in the past couple of weeks, working on our Christmas issue, I realized once again just how giving this county is.

Even though times aren't the best for many people, it didn't seem like the level of care for others was any less than in years past.

And as it should be, many of the less fortunate in our county will have a good Christmas thanks to the generosity of others, although it was probably a sacrifice for some of those who gave. Point is, Rockcastle County has good people.

I say this every year, but 2008 went by faster than any I can remember. There were things that I planned to do in January, thinking I had plenty of time to get them finished, but at the end of the year they're still not done.

Back to caring people. In September Dad died and the show of kindness was overwhelming. Our family certainly appreciates everything that was done or said on our behalf during a trying time.

Besides Dad, my brother-in-law Jason, lost his father in March, three months after losing his mother last December. Mom also lost her last sibling the first week of this month and Dad's sister Anne was buried last week.

Yes, it has been an unusu-

ally sorrowful year for us, but everyone's kindness certainly helps.

It is also time for me to thank everyone for their help.

Without the cooperation of those we deal with on a weekly basis, it would be very difficult to publish the *Signal*.

There have been very few times over the years when someone or some group has been uncooperative, even when the result of their cooperation didn't shine the best light on them.

I also want to thank our advertisers, many of whom I consider friends. Your support throughout the years has been tremendous and certainly appreciated.

Again, thanks to everyone and I must warn you, I probably have the most cell phone numbers of anyone in the county since I don't sleep that well you never know when I might call.

We are always looking at ways to make our publication better so if there is something you don't think we are covering well enough, or something we haven't covered at all or you simply have a suggestion, just send us an e-mail at mvsignal@windstream.net.

We don't run anonymous letters to the editor, but we read all of our e-mails, even the anonymous ones.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us.



Rockcastle Memories

By David J. Griffin

It was a Golden Age

The 1950's became the era when Detroit produced automobiles that had their own distinctive look. They were anything but basic transportation. Not every car came with turn signals or backup lights. Drivers still proclaimed their intentions with hand signals.

A car of the '50's had so much character and could easily be recognized. Even girls knew one make from another, one year from another. I even found a poem that demonstrates this feeling about our cars. It is called:

*Memories
There was a time when just one glance was all that it would take,
And you would know the kind of car,
the model and the make.*

*So time moves on and so do we,
and nothing stays the same,
But I still love to reminisce,
and walk down memory lane.*

The automobiles produced during those years dramatically changed the way cars looked. They were ornately trimmed with lots of chrome, making bumpers, hood ornaments, and accessories glisten in the light of the sun.

In 1953, the basic Chevrolet sold for \$1,524. The next year General Motors adopted Panoramic windshields, setting a trend for decades.

Teenagers caught on to this "look" in their own cars. Companies like Warshawsky and J. C. Whitney sold anything that was covered with chrome. Each of us patiently waited for their latest catalogs to arrive to see what new chrome accessory we could purchase for our automobiles.

Almost every one of my friends had, at the least, chrome breathers sitting on top of their carburetors. Some of the fastest cars had several - one for each throat.

One that I remember distinctly was Charles Hensley. Now that young man knew how to use chrome to dress up his "ride"! You had to wear sunglasses when he raised the hood of his 1951 Chevrolet.

Another design that was characteristic of the 50's was the growth of the tail fins. These fins did not make cars go faster, and they certainly did not improve their performance, but they were very unique to each brand.

Cadillac was one of the first to bring this design into vogue, and it was followed by almost every automobile produced in that era. The 1957 Chevrolet had a distinctive rear end, a "look" that carried into the '60's. The '57 Chevy held its fins vertically, while the fins of the '60's carried the horizontal look. Think about the 1959 and 1960 Chevrolets.

1957 also brought about the advent of quad headlights on several models. The quad lamps were temporarily ruled illegal in several states. For that reason, several '57 makes can be found with either single or

twin headlights on each side.

That was also the year that Dick Clark launched American Bandstand on national television to capture the attention of teenagers after school. The Everly Brothers' song Wake up Little Susie was banned in Boston for its questionable lyrics about a boy and his girl in his car past curfew.

In those days, more teenagers than ever had their own cars. Most of their spare time was spent working on cars, cruising the drive-ins, and circling the local restaurants looking for chicks. One thing is for sure: teens in the fifties enjoyed their cars and had fun with them.

I wanted to customize my first ride, which was my grandfather's 1954 Chevy. Since it was a four-door, six cylinder, the most I could do to make it "cool" was to hang fuzzy dice from the rear-view mirror. When I actually purchased my own automobile (1958 Chevy), I really did rely on Warshawsky and J. C. Whitney for customizing my first set of wheels.

My first purchases were a chrome breather, dash knobs, spinner wheel covers, and eventually "Lakes pipes." I spent countless hours washing and polishing that old '58, and most of my friends thought I had the cleanest ride in the county.

The girls of those days loved riding around in our finely polished automobiles. They slid over and sat next to the driver - an impossibility today with the standard bucket seats. Wonder who came up with that idea anyhow? The full bench seat was much more comfortable, and I just loved having my date sitting by my side. (I could use just one hand even to light my cigarettes using a book of matches.)

The cars we drove were characteristic of our personalities. For some odd reason, I never did quit washing my automobiles. Even today, I spend

(Cont. to A4)



Versailles shop is truly Bluegrass

Kentucky is home to some of the finest artists and craftsmen in the nation.

Travel in any direction, inquire in nearly every county, and you'll find talented people handcrafting unique products.

From Blanket Creek Pottery near Falmouth to the hills of Rockcastle County where Jeff Underwood fashions rustic yard art, the offerings are nearly as varied as the personalities of the creators.

Many of the products are displayed and sold at art fairs and craft shows throughout warm-weather months. Finding outlets for other times of the year can be a challenge.

That's where people like the mother-daughter duo of Joyce Christopher and Wendy Batman come to the rescue.

After many years in the legal field, the Woodford County residents pled guilty to being bored by their work and decided to take their lives in a new and exciting direction.

Joyce and her college educator husband, John, had come to Kentucky in 1970 in an attempt to escape the student protests taking place on campuses

in Virginia.

They felt Kentucky would offer a safer environment in which to raise their two children.

"As soon as we got here, the ROTC building at UK was burned by student protesters," says Joyce.

The turbulent times were survived, with John continuing to teach at UK while Joyce served as housewife and mother, doing "lots of volunteering" and finding some time to hone her skills as a stained glass artist and seamstress.

John Jr. grew up to be an attorney, now based in Cincinnati, while Wendy joined her mom as a legal secretary while developing her talents as an artist.

Last May, the pair, ages 65 and 44, began giving serious thought to opening a shop that "would provide an outlet for what we do."

Traveling the state in a vehicle dubbed "Nannie's van," they made contacts with artists and craftsmen across Kentucky at fairs and festivals, purchasing a wide variety of handcrafted items.

(Cont. to A4)

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We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year of health, happiness, peace and prosperity.

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Six local children were treated this year through the Rockcastle Sheriff Department's Shop with a Cop Program, which is also sponsored in part by the Mt. Vernon Lions Club. The six children were treated to a shopping spree on Saturday morning and then to a lunch at McDonalds. Shown above, front row from left are: Bethany Blevins, Gabriel Blevins, Stephen Blevins, Matthew Gadd, Santa Claus aka Mike Bryant and Deputy Rick Brummett. Back row, from left: Deputy Jason Kirby, Patrick Gadd, Andrienne Gadd, Sheriff Mike Peters, 5th District Constable David Mason and Mt. Vernon Lion's Club President Mike DeBorde. (Photo by: Richard Anderkin)



"Sights and Sounds of the Season" at Roundstone Elementary
Roundstone Elementary School students held their annual Christmas program on Thursday, December 11, 2008. Each grade level performed Christmas Carols, under the direction of Mrs. Sandy Allen, the music teacher. The emcees were fifth graders, Callie Carpenter, Sara Beth Clark, Kristen Forrester, and Jordan Sizemore. Instrumentalists performing were McKayla Blair, Adiah Coffey, Joy Frith, Alyssa Goodman, Dillon Long, and Lea Ellen Rogers. We would like to extend thanks to all who helped with the program and to all the parents and family members who attended.

Merry Christmas from the folks at
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We be closing at 4 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day

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Hi, my name is Seth Adam King. I am the son of John and Sheena Fry King, of Pine Knot. I was born November 25, 2008 at Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital in Somerset weighing 8 lbs. 8 1/2 ozs. and was 21" long. Paternal grandparents are John and Sandra King of Pine Knot. Maternal grandparents are Barbara Teal of Brodhead and Rick Fry of Mt. Vernon. Paternal great grandparents are the late Willard and Ella Mae King and Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Shirley Rollens of Sawyer, Ky. Maternal great grandparents are Clifford Fry of Hudson, Fl. and the late Francis Fry and Mr. and Mrs. Preston Holcomb o Brodhead. Maternal great great grandmother is Mrs. Florelle Brown of Brodhead.

Shingles vaccine

The Rockcastle County Health Department is now offering the Shingles Vaccine. A single dose if the vaccine is indicated for adults 60 years of age and older.

Shingles is caused by the varicella zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox. It is a painful rash often with blisters (Herpes Zoster). The rash appears on the face or body and can last 2-4 weeks and be very painful. Very rarely, a shingles infection may cause pneumonia, hearing problems, blindness, brain inflammation or even death. Only someone who has had chickenpox or gotten the chickenpox vaccine can get shingles. You cannot get shingles from another person. However, a person who has never had chickenpox or chickenpox vaccine could get chickenpox from someone with shingles. Shingles is more common in people over the age of fifty.

Please call the Rockcastle County Health Department at 256-2242 to schedule your vaccine appointment.



Happy 25th Anniversary
Bill and Joyce Lear
December 24, 1983
One by one each year flew by, since you both said "I do"... 25 years of memories,



shared by the two of you. From big events and holidays, To simple daily pleasures, Some tearful times along life's way, Some joy that can't be measured... One by one each year now gone, But still they're yours forever... Each and every memory, You both have shared together!

With All Our Love,
Bridgett and Shay
Mom, Belinda, Frankie, Leandra, Levi, Lebrana, Dad and Mom, Ricky, Celena, Sasha, Alivia, Jeff, Brady, Jenny Sue and Mike



40th Wedding Anniversary
Gary and Brenda Smith celebrated their 40th anniversary with an amazing trip. First, the couple went to New York City and Manhattan. Following several days in the city the couple boarded a plane to Tel Aviv. They spent 10 days touring many historical sights in Israel, Bethlehem, The Sea of Galilee, and Jerusalem. Before leaving, both got re-baptized in the Jordan River.
Gary and Brenda reside in Mt. Vernon. They have two children, Glenn and Cloia (Darrell) and two grandchildren, Savannah Glenn and Shane Allen.

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2007 Chevy Aveo LS - Auto, 5K	\$242/mo.
2007 PT Cruiser - 30K	\$241/mo.
2007 Grand Caravan SXT - Stow & Go	\$242/mo.
2007 Dodge Charger - 26K	\$352/mo.
2008 Forenza - Auto, air, 12K	\$253/mo.
2007 Chevy Silverado - 4x4	\$264/mo.
2007 Ram 1500 - Only 9,500 miles.	\$264/mo.
2006 Pacifica - Pwr seat, alloys, 35K	\$264/mo.
2005 Trailblazer 4x4 - Roof, pwr seat	\$264/mo.
2005 Nissan Quest - Quads, 36K	\$264/mo.
2007 Cobalt LT - Spoiler, alloys	\$275/mo.
2007 Chevy HHR LS - 32K	\$286/mo.
2007 Malibu LS - GAS SAVER	\$286/mo.
2007 Chevy Uplander LS - Alloys	\$286/mo.
2007 Taurus SE - Leather, roof	\$286/mo.
2006 Liberty 4x4 - Alloys, 31K	\$286/mo.
2006 Pontiac G-6 - Roof, 35K	\$286/mo.
2005 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 - 44K	\$286/mo.
2008 Fusion SEL- Loaded	\$308/mo.
2008 Grand Prix - Spoiler, alloys	\$308/mo.
2007 Ford F-150 (2 choose from)	\$308/mo.
2007 GMC Sierra - Only 12K	\$308/mo.
2007 Equinox LS - Alloys, 32K	\$319/mo.
2008 Mustang - Pony Pkg, 9K	\$329/mo.
2005 Dakota Laramie - Crew Cab, 4x4, leather, 21K	\$329/mo.
2005 Cadillac CTS - Roof, leather, only 13K	\$15,990

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Our Readers Write

Thank You from Rocket Madness...

Dear Editor,
A special thanks to the following people, businesses and programs for their support during our annual Rocket Madness:

Arvin Family Practice, A Cut Above, Aletha's, Appliance Service Center, B&L Grocery, Brodhead Alumni, Brodhead Farm Equipment, Darlene Brown, Brunner Studio, Brodhead Pharmacy, B&M Liquidators, Coy and Linda Taylor, Celena's Hair Salon, Collins Respiratory Care, Community Trust Bank, Cox Hardware, Cox Law Office, Cummins Sporting Goods, Frances Whitehead, Dr. Karen Saylor, Tina Abney, Jeff and Lisa Smithern, Rockcastle Embroidery, Helen Abney, Mayor Clarice Kirby, Goff Excavating, Rep. Danny Ford, Coffey & Ford PSC, Long John Silver's, Waffle House, Climax Water, Lowe's Sporting Goods, Mark's Hardware, Shirley Martin, Marvin Owens Home for Funerals, Joyce Mink, Wolfe's Movie Warehouse, Mt. Vernon Signal, Juan and Amy Nicely, People's Bank, Phillips Realty, Potter's Clay Salon, Radio Shack, Renfro Valley, Richmond St. Eye Care, Rocket Sports Apparel, Rockcastle Hospital, Sabrian's Hair Design, State Beauty Supply, Jenny Sweet - Longaberger, Touch of Class, Valley Bingo, Pepsi Cola Bottling, Mitchell Tolle Gallery, Mary Mathis Insurance, Dr. David Bullock, Sonny's, El Cazador, Schwan's, Tea Cup Cafe, Clifford Collins, Brodhead Fire

Dept., Pout House, Doris Blanton, Booster Club parents, RCHS Food Service, Bill Sowder, Jamie Fain, Jennifer Brock, RCHS Band, Wendy's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Pizza Hut, Denny's, McDonald's, Peg's, Blimpie's, Brodhead Hometown Market, IGA, Godfather's Pizza, Uncle Charlie's, Mahaffey's Quick Lube, Singleton Insurance, Dolly Sodds Bakery, JROTC, Save-A-Lot, Lee's Famous Recipe, Ryan's, Dari Delite, Brodhead Commission, Kristy Bullock Gross, Sandy Burke, Loretta Dillingham, Jack's S&T, Jim Neeley, Rose's One Stop, Dowell and Martin Funeral Home, Johnny and Louise Bengé, Roy Todd Builders, Inspired Image, Renee Bullock, Haddix Detailing, Charlene Gentry, Rick Stansbury, Stephanie Harmon, McClure's Auto Parts, Berea Express Oil Change, Eagle Rock Insulation, Main Street Pharmacy, Spark's Flowers and More, Citizen's Bank, PBK Bank, Kathy Wright, Kwik Mart, Mt. Vernon Fuel Center, RCHS Cheerleaders.

Thanks Again,
Rocket Madness Committee

Speaking for those who choose not to...

Dear Editor,
It has come to my attention that comments have been made about my previous letters. The comments range from:
(1) "good work, keep it up"
(2) "it's entertaining"
(3) "his dogs ain't in that fight"
To the first group, THANK YOU.

To the second group, "Hey keep buying newspapers."

To the third group, "NO, my dogs are not in this fight, BUT I AM!!! At the REQUEST OF NUMEROUS CITIZENS of Mt Vernon and Rockcastle County. I AM speaking for those who choose not to speak or are afraid to speak because of being intimidated by the mayor and/or the city council. I am speaking for others and for that I am not ashamed.

Thank you and have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
Sincerely, Rick Courtney

"Memories"

(Cont. from A2)

too much time with a towel in my hand, making sure that my "ride" is squeaky clean. I just cannot stand driving a dirty car. My wife thinks I am too "pernickety," and I suppose she is right. I do know one thing; a clean automobile gets more looks than one that is covered with dust and grime, especially if it is black.

I suppose the shine of the chrome and the look of the '50's is why those cars are collectors' items today. I still wish I could "cruise around" in that old black '58 Chevy.

(You can reach me at mtman@mis.net or you can drop me a line at P.O. Box 927 - Stanton, KY 40380. I appreciate your comments and suggestions.)

"Ken & Tucky"

(Cont. from A2)

When they were finished with what they call their "ooing and aahing trip," they had enough material to follow through on Wendy's long-time dream of having a business on Main Street in Versailles.

Truly Bluegrass debuted on Sept. 15 featuring the products of more than 50 artists and vendors.

It's a rare day when some of the artists from the area don't visit the 14x30 former real estate office for coffee and conversation.

Vada Dolph, a Washington state native whose father hailed from King Bee in Lincoln County dropped by on a cold and snowy Tuesday. The spry 77-year-old was checking on her numerous soft-sculpture cloth dolls displayed in the shop's front window.

Texas native Joan Wilhoit is a frequent visitor and talented artist specializing in murals and faux finishes. Reproductions of her canvas art pieces are displayed in the shop.

Wilhoit has an advisory team whose members include her friend and fellow Versailles resident Gwyn Hyman Rubio, author of several books including Icy Sparks, an Oprah Book Club selection, and The Woodman's Daughter.

According to Wilhoit, Rubio's late father, Mac Hyman, wrote the best-selling novel No Time For Sergeants, later a popular play and 1958 movie launching the careers of Andy Griffith and Don Knotts.

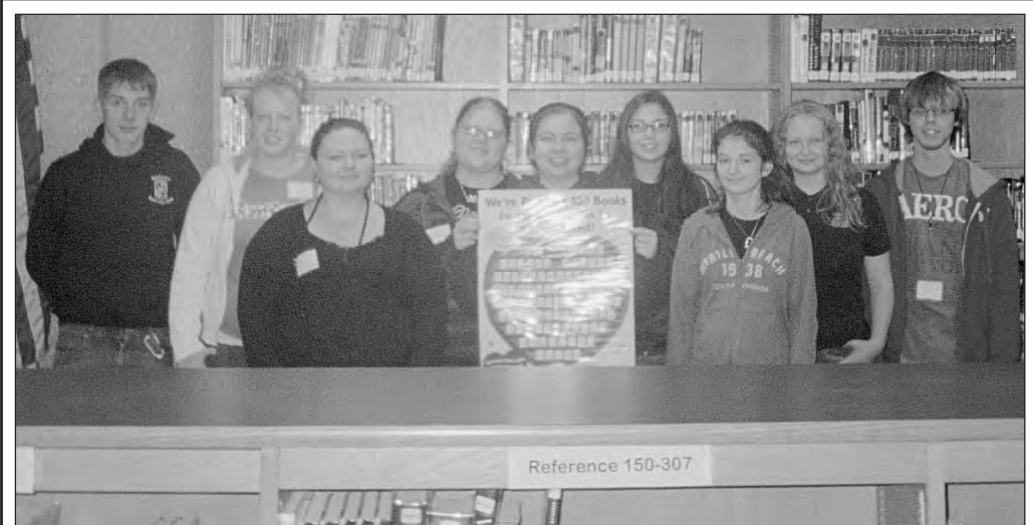
"We're simply surrounded by some totally awesome artists and it's been great having them come to us and getting to know them on a personal basis here in the store as they share their stories," says Joyce.

"My husband says this shop has turned into a saloon for women without the booze."

Columnist Don White has served as editor at several newspapers in Kentucky. His Kentucky Traveler features are published throughout the state.



The Roundstone Cub Scouts Troop 263 provided Christmas for a little boy that is being housed at the Ashley House this Christmas. We are all very proud of these boys, for they have learned the true meaning of Christmas and thought of someone else other than themselves. The scouts would also like to thank Ms. Tammy and the Ashley House for the gift that was gave to them. The gift was very nice and the scouts plan on playing the game at there Christmas party. Pictured from left are: Dylan Bullen, Ira Hagard, Dylan Chandler and Devon Seaburg.



RCHS Book Club members recently participated in Scholastic Book Company's Read 100 Books Event to provide books to children who might not otherwise have access to reading materials. Students who participated include (left to right): Buck Blair, Samantha Adams, Lindsey Northern, Kayla Frederick, Alexis Brown, Tara Baldwin, Rebecca Ayers, Amanda Swinney, and Keifer Goff. Also participating but not pictured are Seth Adams, Kayla Moberly, Tashia Jones, and Danny Barnes. RCHS chose Save the Children as their choice for Scholastic to make a donation.

RCHS Book Club and Library have busy season

The RCHS Book Club recently completed two service projects to benefit others during the holidays, while the library hosted the annual book fair.

The first project, an annual event, was for the club to participate in Scholastic Book Company's "Read 100 Books" event. In two weeks' time all 100 blanks on the poster were filled by thirteen members. The club chose to have Scholastic's donation go to Save the Children to purchase books for students in Owsley County, Kentucky.

The second project, also an annual event, was the canned food drive tied in with the Book Fair held at the RCHS Library. A total of 149 cans or boxes of food were gathered for Ashlee's House in Mt. Vernon.

Book Club members are Samantha Adams, Seth Adams, Rebecca Ayers, Tara Baldwin, Danny Barnes, Buck Blair, Alexis Brown, Courtney Damrell, Kayla Frederick, Keifer Goff, Dylan Howard, Kayla Hurt, Tashia Jones, Kayla Moberly, Lindsey Northern, Amelia Smith, and Amanda Swinney. Officers this year are: Amanda Swinney, President; Alexis Brown, Vice President; Keifer Goff, Secretary; and Kayla Hurt, Projects Chairperson. Faculty sponsor is Mrs. Janet Wells, Library Media Specialist.

The library hosted its second annual book fair and received additional books to add to the collection. This year's theme was Feed the Hungry, Feed your Mind. Part of the fun was contests and prizes during this time. Winners who received shopping certificates were: Nick Shelton, Megan Powell, Stanley Baggett,

curately guessed the 79 items in the candy jar for a prize. Mrs. Jaclyn Cook won the teacher prize. Special thanks to those who assisted with the book fair: Mrs. Teresa Childress, Mrs. Sandy Alexander, Megan Baker, Rachael Hale, Reanna Hasty, Danny Barnes, Alexis Brown, Kayla Frederick, Morgan Harper, and Mrs. Janet Wells.

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Bookmobile Schedule
No service week of Dec. 22nd.
Mon., Dec. 29th: Spiro, Level Green, Willailla, Country Care.
Tues., Dec. 30th: Ottawa and Bee Lick.
Dedication Postponed
A ribbon-cutting ceremony, scheduled for Dec. 20th at Quail Park, has been postponed to a later date.
Project Graduation Meeting
There will be a Project Graduation 2009 meeting Monday, Jan. 5th at 6:30 in the high school cafeteria. Meetings will follow on the first Monday of each month. All parents/guardians of seniors are urged to attend.
Health Department Holiday Hours
The Rockcastle County Health Department will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 25 and 26 for the Christmas Holidays and January 1 and January 2 for New Year's.
Courthouse Holiday Hours
The Circuit Court Clerk, County Court Clerk, PVA and Sheriff's offices will be closed Wed., Dec. 24th, Thurs., Dec. 25th, Fri., Dec. 26th and Sat., Dec. 27th for the Christmas Holidays. The same offices will be closed Thursday, Jan. 1st, Friday, Jan. 2nd and Sat., Jan. 3 for the New Year's Holiday.

Aerobics Classes in Berea
It's time to get in shape! The Berea Parks and Recreation Department is excited to offer aerobics classes four nights a week. Want to add a challenge to your current workout? Join us for intermediate aerobics on Mondays and Wednesdays. If you are just starting out, try our Beginning Low Impact aerobics class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All classes are six weeks in length and will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Russel Acton Folks Center in Berea. For ages 14 and up. Space is limited. Call the Berea Parks and Recreation Department at 859-986-9402 for more information.

RCIDA Meeting
The Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority holds its regular meeting the first Monday of each month at noon on the third floor of the courthouse.

Historical Society Hours
Rockcastle Historical Society is open Mondays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the RTEC garage building. Due to the holidays, regular monthly meetings will not be held in Nov. and Dec. Meetings will resume in Jan., 2009.

NA Women's Meeting
The Women's NA Serenity Group of Mt. Vernon meets each Monday at 8 p.m. at the Christian Appalachian Project Community Center, 64 Beiting Lane, Mt. Vernon. Open meeting - non-smoking.

Kiwanis Club Meetings
The Rockcastle Kiwanis Club meets every Thursday at noon at Renfro Valley Lodge.

Women's Narcotics Meeting
There will be a Women's Narcotics Anonymous Meeting every Monday evening at 8 p.m. at the Community Center, sponsored by Christian Appalachian Center. For more information, contact the Healing Rain Center at 256-5810.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.

Narcotics Anonymous
Narcotics Anonymous meets Thursday nights at 8 o'clock behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.

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Obituaries



Chester Byron Owens, Jr.

Chester Byron Owens, Jr. died December 19, 2008 at the Rockcastle Hospital. He was the son of the late Dr. Chester Byron Owens, Sr. and Gertrude Martin Owens. He was a lifelong resident of Brodhead. He was born March 8, 1917. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 48 years, Barbara Jane Owens, a brother Richard Cherry Owens, and a special nephew Kenneth A. Parsons.

He was a naval veteran of WWII and a retired Postmaster of the USPS an organization he served for 42 years. Mr. Owens was a 55 year Lions Club member as well as a Lifelong Mason. He served on many Community organizations—City council member of Brodhead, Rockcastle County Ambulance Board, one of the original trustees of the Kentucky Christian Assembly, Brodhead Fire Chief, Deacon of the Brodhead Christian Church, Cemetery Board member, Cedar Rapids Country Club Board member to name a few.

He is survived by his sons, Dr. Byron M. Owens (Peggy) of Somerset, Philip M. Owens (Ginny) of Irvine, and J. Stephen Owens (Onna Kay) of Brodhead. Also surviving are 4 grandsons, Byron Patrick Owens, Thomas Byron Owens, Philip Daniel Owens and Jeffrey Hunt Owens. A grand daughter Angela Janette Owens and three great grandchildren. He also leaves behind a special sister-in-law Virginia P. Nunn, nephews Jimmy T. Parsons, Frankie L. Nunn and long time caregiver Sharon Lovins.

Services were held Sunday, December 21, 2008 at the Brodhead Christian Church with Bro. Tracy Valentine officiating.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Brodhead Christian Church P.O. Box 603, Brodhead, KY 40409.

Casketbearers were: Jeffrey H. Owens, Daniel Owens, Michael Parsons, Jimmy Parsons, Frankie Nunn, Roger Bray and Marvin E. Owens.

Honorary casketbearers were: Dale Bray, Walter Baldwin, Clay Colson, Regina Burton, Judy Petrey, Sheary Caldwell, Linda Adams, Margie Rose and Johnny Newland.

Condolences may be made to www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

Zelma Fern Cromer

Zelma Fern Cromer, 89, of Mt. Vernon and widow of Arlie Cromer, died Sunday, December 21, 2008 at the Rockcastle Hospital.

Funeral arrangements are by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home and are incomplete at this time.

A complete obituary will appear in the next issue of the Signal.

Please visit www.DowellMartin.com to view online obituary.

Rockcastle UNITE Coalition

Join Us!
The Rockcastle UNITE Coalition meets on the second Wednesday of each month, at noon, at the Renfro Valley Lodge.



Ralph Owens

Ralph Owens, 88, husband of Sarah Owens of Livingston, died Wednesday, December 17, 2008 at the V.A. Medical Center in Lexington. He was born on August 18th, 1920 in Livingston, the son of the late George and Bertha Gilliam Owens.

He was a truck driver in construction for years. Ralph was an Army Veteran of World War II. His hobby was fishing.

Those left to cherish his memory include: his wife, Sarah Owens of Livingston; two sisters, Clara Ivik of Brodhead and Jean Fossi of Shillington, PA; eight nephews, Wayne (Laverne) Henson of Livingston, Bruce (Lillian) Owens of New Castle, KY and Steven Fossi, Eddie Fossi, Terry Owens, Larry Owens, James Owens and George Owens; four nieces, Jenia Myers, Sharon Myers, Mary Ann Sears and Linda Fossi; and a host of friends and neighbors.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by: three brothers, Billy Ray Owens, Paul Owens and Lawrence Owens; three sisters, Beatrice Jones, Lucille Owens and Inez Myers; and infant twins, George Jr. and Helen Owens.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 20th, 2008 at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals Chapel with Bro. Dean Carpenter and Bro. Billy Medley officiating. Burial followed in the Red Hill Cemetery in Livingston.

Casketbearers were: Kenneth Gilliam, Clarence Gilliam, Roger Henson, Jeffery Owens, Bruce Owens and David Gilliam.

Condolences to the family may be made to his online registry at www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

Edith Irene Hopkins

Miss Edith Irene Hopkins, 85 of Mt. Vernon, died Saturday, December 20, 2008 at the Rockcastle Health & Rehabilitation Center in Brodhead. She was born in Rockcastle County on December 29, 1922 the daughter of Elijah and Lela Mae Hunt Hopkins. She was a retired seamstress and a member of the non-denominational faith.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews and was preceded in death by four brothers, Earl, John, Wade and Berl Hopkins and one infant sister.

Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday, December 23, 2008 at 1 p.m. at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Eddie Nation. Burial will follow in the Maretburg Cemetery. Friends may call at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home after 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Donations are suggested to one's favorite charity or to the Gideons International.

Please visit www.DowellMartin.com to view online obituary.

The Signal office will be closed December 24th - January 4th Merry Christmas!

Buford Stone Ward

Buford Stone Ward, 72, of Mt. Vernon, died Wednesday, December 16, 2008 at the UK Chandler Medical Center in Lexington. He was born in Rockcastle County on March 23, 1936 the son of Enoch S. and Florence Witt Ward and was a member of First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon.

He is survived by: four sisters, Wonedith Robinson of Ypsilanti, MI, Wendlene (Harold) Wallin of Loveland, OH, Emily (Roy) Baker of Knoxville, TN and Marie Rice of Dayton, OH. Several nieces and nephews also survive. He was preceded in death by one brother, Kermit Ward of Dayton, OH.

There were no services, the family chose cremation. Arrangements were by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

Donations in memory of Mr. Ward are suggested to: First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon Building Fund, PO Box 639, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456.

Subscribe to the Signal

Cards of Thanks

Thank You

Words cannot express my heartfelt thanks to each person who was so kind and caring during my recent lung transplant

Thanks to everyone who sent cards, e-mails, gifts and food, visited me or called. But, most of all, those who prayed for me before, during and after my surgery. Without those prayers, I wouldn't be where I am today.

I am truly blessed to have so many wonderful friends in my life.

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a truly Happy New Year.

Love, Miss Jenny Phil Childress

The family of Phil Childress would like to express their sincere appreciation for the kindness and love shown during our loss.

We especially want to thank Cox Funeral Home, along with Schoppenhorst, Underwood and Brooks Funeral Home of Shepherdsville, Ky. for the service, care and compassion.

Thanks to all the churches in the Mt. Vernon area for the many prayers and kindnesses and a special thank you to Bible Baptist Church for the wonderful meal served and to the volunteers for their time.

To Brother Paul Chitwood of the Mt. Washington Baptist

Church, we cannot say enough for the beautiful service and the precious time you have spent with our family.

Also a special thank you to Dwayne Hutton for the beautiful sons that were special to our hearts.

To each of you who visited, called, sent cards, gifts, flowers, food and especially for the prayers, we want you to know that we will never forget your kindness. We have truly been blessed with a multitude of friends. May God bless each of you.

Dianne, Brent, Grandchildren and all the Childress Family

Elva Mullins

In memory of Elva Mullins who died 1 year ago, December 23, 2007.

There will never be a moment, I will not think of you Our special times together, the loving things you would do Memories so special, when you were by my side

Now tucked away inside my heart, forever to abide

And someday up in Heaven, again your face I'll see

When we meet upon that golden shore

Where the best is yet to be. Sadly missed by your family

Merry Christmas Mom

With Best Wishes At Christmas

To all our customers, neighbors and such, Your visits this year have meant so much to us! Your patronage, friendship and your kind attitude, Have given us lots of reasons for gratitude; That's why we really mean it when we display, Our best wishes to you for a great holiday!

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Two people were injured in a two vehicle crash on Interstate 75 around 3:30 p.m., Friday afternoon. The collision occurred near the 66 mile marker of the northbound lanes and caused one of the vehicles to overturn and the other to run into the median. Above, Rockcastle EMTs Becky Griffin, Amy Navarre, Dana Carter and Jamie McClure, along with help from others including Mt. Vernon firefighter Ryan Messinger, take a Tennessee man to a waiting ambulance. The Tennessee man and a Richmond woman, who was driving the SUV shown at right, were both taken to St. Joseph Hospital in Berea. The wreck caused major delays in both the northbound and southbound lanes of I-75. (Photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Local artisan to create baskets at Artisan Center

Janet Northern of Mt. Vernon will create baskets using honeysuckle vines and willow bark from 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. January 10th at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

Janet Northern has been making baskets for thirteen years and is primarily self-taught. She utilizes the wood and natural vines that she finds and gathers in the region surrounding her Rockcastle County farm to create her baskets. The Eastern Kentucky woodlands give Janet inspiration as well as material from which to work.

To prepare the honeysuckle vines, Janet boils the vines for 30 minutes and then strips off the outer bark to reveal the honey colored, pliable surface of the vine. When the vines are freshly cut they are pliable, but over time they dry out and need to be soaked in water to re-soften them. Janet's smaller baskets are often made with reed and driftwood.

Starting with an interesting piece of wood, Janet begins to design her asymmetrical one-of-a-kind basket forms, often creating multiple openings. She soaks the honeysuckle vines in water, attaches them to the piece of wood chosen, and begins to weave her forms into asymmetrical and beautiful shapes.

Janet also creates baskets from the inner bark of willow trees. These are usually started with a criss-cross pattern and a

square bottom. She tapers the willow bark into varying widths depending on the size and function of each basket. The bark is kept supple by soaking it in water before weaving.

Works by Janet Northern can regularly be found at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, located at 975 Walnut Meadow Road, just off Interstate 75 at exit 77 (Berea). The Center's exhibits, shopping, and travel information areas are all open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the café from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. The Center currently features works by more than 650 artisans from over 100 counties from all across the Commonwealth. For more information call 859-985-5448 or visit the Center's web site at www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet.



Janet Northern



Regina Hull-Brown, Mt. Vernon Elementary School Family Resource Coordinator, stands among the many clothes and toys collected by her department along with help from teachers, parents and community members for the approximately 150 students who were selected for the Christmas Tree program at MVES. Parents were scheduled to pick up the items for their children on Monday and Tuesday at the school. (Photo by: Richard Anderkin)

No Paper Next Week!

There will be no Mount Vernon Signal the week of January 1st.

Our next issue will be January 8th. The Signal office will be closed December 24th through January 4th.

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<p>2008 DODGE RAM 1500 \$12,980</p>  <p>Stk. #56007M</p>	<p>FORD</p> <p>95 Ford F150 4x4, Auto, One Owner.....\$4,980 05 Ford F150, Auto, Local & Nice.....\$9,980 03 Ford F150 Crew Cab.....\$10,980 07 Ford Focus SES, Auto.....\$10,980 05 Ford Sportrac, Auto, Nice.....\$11,980 06 Ford Ranger EC, Auto.....\$11,980</p>
<p>2008 DODGE DAKOTA CREW CAB 4x4 \$19,980</p>  <p>Stk. #55003M</p>	<p>BARGAIN ROW</p> <p>95 Plymouth Voyager.....\$2,480 95 Pontiac Grand Am.....\$2,880 98 Chevy Monte Carlo.....\$2,980 98 Chrysler Sebring Convertible.....\$3,980 98 Plymouth Voyager.....\$3,980</p>

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First graders at Roundstone Elementary School, whose Letters to Santa were chosen as the best in their class this year, are shown above, from left: Billy Boggs, Katelyn Singleton and Matthew Sizemore. The three students received a cash prize from the *Signal*. Santa letters from each of the county's first grade students appear inside this week's C-section.



The first graders at Brodhead Elementary School, whose letters were chosen as the best this year, are shown above, from left: Andrew Didilo, Hailee Barnes, Savanna Sweet and Emily Thomas. The four students received a cash prize from the *Signal*.



First graders at Mt. Vernon Elementary School, whose Letters to Santa were chosen as the best in their class, this year, are shown above, from left: Gabriel Tackett, Allie Pheanis, Holly Miller, Adrianna Hellard, Ashley Cameron and Wesley Clark. The six students received a cash prize from the *Signal*. Santa letters from each of the county's first grade students appear inside this week's C-section.

Brianna and family says Thank You!

Hi Everyone,

We would like to say thank you to all of you from the bottom of our hearts for all the cards, letters and numerous things which have been sent to Brianna.

But most of all we thank everyone for the prayers. It is so good that we live in a community where people care.

The reason that we are writing this letter is because so many people have asked us to write them and let them know how Brianna is doing.

We think it is so wonderful that people care so much. However, by the time we take care of Brianna and Hunter there is not enough time in the day.

Brianna is doing good this time. She has not bounced back as soon as other times, but we think she is so aggravated by having to wear the C Coler, but it is so much better than the HALO she was in. She just wants to be a kid and run and jump and she is just not able to do that yet.

We would like to again say thank you to everyone for the prayers, and a special thank you to Bro. Eddie and Bro. Bryan, from First Baptist Church, who stayed with us the whole time Brianna was having this last

surgery. We would like to say thank you to the *Signal*, which goes all over the U.S. Brianna has gotten cards from all over. She even got a card and a key chain, from a Mayor in a town in N.C. She thought that was great. If you get time to send Brianna a card it would be greatly appreciated. The cards have almost quit coming.

The other day she got some cards from the Daisy Scouts and loved them. Thank you girls for your cards. She looks forward to getting them.

I hope some day we can be a blessing to someone else like you all have been to us. We pray and thank GOD for all of you, who are so special.

Mindy and Mamaw Betty
GOD is so good
Brianna McClure
P.O. Box 738,
Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456
(606) 308-1242, (606) 308-1912
(606) 256-3519 (606) 0137

Hi,

My name is Brianna McClure.

Since the writing of my last story, I have gotten bad news. I had to have surgery again on November 15th. They had to take a piece of my pelvic bone and put in my neck with two screws. I'm not in a HALO anymore, but I will be in a C Coler for 12 weeks.

I would like to say to all of you, Thank You. Thanks so much for all the cards, dollars, stickers and jewelry. I loved all of them, since there is not much I can do, I look forward to the cards. Mommy and Mamaw read them all to me and I show them where to put them so I can look at all of them. I can't thank you all enough for all you have done. I don't know all of you, but I love everyone of you, because Jesus loves me and I love you all.

Guess what! I got good news too! I got a new stepdad named Scotty Winstead and a new big step-brother named Roy Scott, which I love very much. Scotty is as good to me as my own Daddy Jamie McClure. I also got a new Nana Laverne Winstead and a new Poppy Dale Winstead, who I love very much. They are all very good to me. I also got new cousins Tristin, Connor and August and a new Uncle, Jeff.

My other Nana is Mary Hayes and the late Norman Hayes. NaNan Hayes comes up and plays with me alot when I'm having a bad day. I love her very much.

My other Nana is Connie McClure and Papa Shirley McClure. I love them a lot.

Again, thank you all so very much for everything. I also have two very special friends, that I love alot. They know who they are. Thank you all again, I can't wait to get back to school! I am home schooled now. My teacher is Mrs. Edna and she is so sweet. I love her and I get great cards from the school and teachers. I love them. Thank you all.

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lb.

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Honey
Hams

179
lb.

Extra Savings

Cifty Farms Whole

Country
Hams

159
lb. Sliced Free

Extra Savings

8 Lb Russett
Potatoes

279

Extra Savings

Red Globe
Grapes

99¢
lb.

Extra Savings

CELERY
89¢

Extra Savings

Fresh Green Onions

119
5 lb. bag

Extra Savings

Hunt's
Manwich

129
15.5 oz. can

Wesson
Oil

349
48 fl. oz. bottle

Extra Savings

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Specialty
Potatoes

129
7.2 oz. box

Extra Savings

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Deicing Crystals

299
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Roast Coffee

599
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Brianna McClure's life is still recovering after an April 6th auto accident.



First graders in Mrs. Jerrilynn Smith's class and Mrs. Janet Carter's class at Mt. Vernon Elementary School sang special songs for some of the Ventilator Care patients in the Respiratory Care Center on Tuesday afternoon. Students shown above, front row, from left, are: Jacob, Jeriann, Isaac, Lauren, Brittaney, Katie, Orion, Selena, Michelle, Isaiah, Andrea, Allison, Holly, Cameron, Leann, Aden, Lebrana, Shakeitha, Katherine, Nora, Eli, and Jason. Back row, from left: Wesley, Abby, Nichole, Tristan, Hunter, Braden, Daniel, Orrin, C.J., Logan, Sam, Walker and Justin.

Rockcastle County High School Academic Honor Roll



Rockcastle County High School senior Morgan Harper has a grade point average of 4.04 and is one of three students tied for the fourth highest ranking of the 207 seniors in the 2009 graduating class at RCHS. Harper is the daughter of Harold and Sherry Harper of Brodhead and is considering attending, Bellarmine, Transylvania or Western Kentucky University in the Fall where she will major in Chemistry. Morgan currently has advanced placement classes at RCHS in Calculus and Chemistry and as a junior she had an advanced placement class in History. Harper plays the baritone and has been a member of the RCHS Band for five years and was selected to the Western Kentucky University Honor Band. Harper is also a member of the RCHS BETA Club and National Honor Society, French Club and Y-Club. Harper enjoys reading, with *Brisings*, written by Christopher Paolini, being her favorite novel.

Hannah Ponder's work on sidelines makes headlines with Rockets, coaches, players

Although Rockcastle County senior Hannah Ponder began what could be a promising career this past fall, her work as a student trainer with the Rockets football team paid more immediate dividends for coaches and players.

When Coach Scott Parkey learned Ponder was interested in sports medicine, he suggested she attend a trainers' clinic last summer at the University of Kentucky. The experience prepared Ponder to play an important role for the Rockets, who finished 8-4 in Parkey's first year as head coach.

Ponder worked the sidelines during games and practices, making sure the team had proper care. Her duties included taping players to treat and prevent injuries, taking care of injured players and assisting Sheri McNew, a UK trainer, who frequently attended games and practices. Ponder also cleaned and organized the locker room, handled paperwork and errands for coaches, sold t-shirts and other merchandise and performed other duties around the coach's office.

Ponder did nearly everything but direct traffic in the parking lot after games.

"In addition to the above," Parkey said, "she decorated the locker room, helped the moms feed the boys on Thursdays, cleaned the locker room and training room, did laun-

dry and, most importantly, she got me and the other coaches peanut M&Ms on Thursdays."

Defensive coordinator Josh Martin said Ponder was an essential part of the team.

"She helps us get our players bandaged up and ready to play and she helps keep Coach Parkey organized. Otherwise, our players would be bleeding everything and our head coach would spend more time doing paperwork and cleaning than coaching football. Needless to say she is a big help."

Assistant coach Chris Bishop said Ponder was Parkey's "right hand woman" who was always "a step ahead of the coaching staff. What's more, she put up with the coaches "even if we were in a bad mood. She is wonderful."

It was a special honor for Ponder to work with Parkey. When she was two, she was the flower girl in Coach Parkey's and his wife, Christy's, wedding. Little did she know what a key role she would play in Parkey's first year as coach.

Ponder plans to pursue a career in sports medicine at UK. No one doubts that she will be successful.

"She was not intimidated by the responsibility or afraid to ask questions," McNew said. "I have been impressed with her personal skills, positive attitude and work ethic. This experience will definitely help her achieve her goal of becoming a health

care professional in the future."

In addition to the positive comments, long time assistant coach Tony Saylor had one more to add. "Hannah has been a super addition to the program and we will sorely miss her. Thank you, Hannah, for a job well done."

Ponder is the daughter of Jill and Steve Ponder of Wildie.



Hannah Ponder

Merry Christmas & A Blessed New Year

and many thanks to our good friends, everywhere.



Front row from left: Lana Sturgill and Doris Lunsford. Back row from left: Jessica Barren, Lisa Evans and Tasha Burton

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Carol, Anna Mae**



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No matter what your game, we hope your season is filled with fun and good times. We know we're thankful for the goodwill you've shown toward us this year.



Joshua Mullins and Sonya Robinson

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“Weather”

(Cont. from front)

the total of 40.14 inches of precipitation recorded this year.

Cox said precipitation in the county for 2008 was between four and five inches below normal.

“Mayor”

(Cont. from front)

town on business.

County Attorney Reynolds said Wednesday that he would ask for a March trial date in the case, on February 23rd, unless some type of plea agreement could be worked out before then.

The Mayor, who has said publicly she is innocent and would be found not guilty if the case were taken to trial, faces a penalty of not more than 12 months in prison and/or not more than a \$500 fine.

“Families”

(Cont. from front)

vulnerable children.

In the past several years, a tradition of doing just that has grown quietly and steadily through partnership with the local DCBS Protection and Permanency office.

This year, nearly one hundred children will receive gifts

that include clothing, personal items, games and toys, thanks to local businesses and community partners.

DCBS staff selects the children to receive gifts that are in their home care such as foster homes or relative placements, in addition to children in the community whose families may not otherwise be able to provide.

Renfro Valley has provided gifts for 40 children from monetary donations they collect throughout the year for this special Christmas project. Other donors include: First Baptist Church, Dari Delite, First Christian Church, Cash Express, Citizens Bank, Crossroads Assembly of God, Rockcastle Hospital and an additional 30 individual sponsors.

Each and everyday we make choices that will change the outcome of not only their lives but affects the lives of others.

On behalf of the children, DCBS staff thanks everyone who contributed.

*Merry
Christmas and
Happy New
Year
from all of us to
all of you*



Mr. Earl Phillips recently gave Mt. Vernon Elementary a Christmas gift. Phillips made corn hole boards to donate to the school for students to enjoy at recess. Pictured are MVES Principal Mr. Leon Davidson (right) and students Peyton Bowman, Joseph Cowan, Hannah Mullins and Janelle Brown accepting the gift from Mr. Phillips.

Amy Nicole Elliott took part in Western Kentucky University's 164th commencement ceremony on Saturday, December 13th. She graduated with magna cum laude recognition as part of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education.



During her time at Western she has been involved in Habitat for Humanity, Phi Eta Sigma, Student KEA, National Society for Collegiate Scholars and worked as a campus tour guide. She will start graduate school in spring 2009 for a Masters Degree in Elementary Education. Amy is a 2004 graduate of RCHS. She is the daughter of Dennis and Pam Elliott. She is the granddaughter of Murphy and the late Eva Martin and of the late Kenneth and Lois Elliott.



Adam Hensley, son of Ronnie and Rhonda Hensley of Orlando, graduated from Lindsey Wilson College on Saturday, December 13th. Adam received a Bachelors in Communications. Adam is the grandson of Andrew Johnson of Mt. Vernon, Louise Johnson of Richmond, Betty and Stan Wright of Orlando and the late Johnny Hensley, of Orlando.

Roundstone student is winner of essay contest

Roundstone Elementary School student Lea Ellen Rogers was recently selected as the recipient of the 2008 Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay contest in the elementary school category (K-3rd). Winners were selected based on their reflection of their most inspired Dr. King moment or speech in concert with the theme, “Moving Towards the Future Today, Embracing Change in a World of Difference”, and stating how she is using that inspiration to shape her life and community. This contest is a statewide competition, in which Lea Ellen was selected from entries submitted from across the Commonwealth, and to be one of the finalists in this competition is truly an honor.

Lea Ellen will be presented with a certificate along with \$300 U.S. Savings Bond at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Celebration in January, 2009 at the Kentucky Historical Society in Frankfort, Kentucky.

We are very proud of you Lea Ellen!!! Roundstone Elementary students and staff

The following is Lea Ellen's essay:

Making the World a Better Place

By Lea Ellen Rogers

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a great leader who saw people treated differently, and he decided to fix this problem and change the world. The problem that I see in our community is that veterans are only recognized one day a year on Veteran's Day. Veterans are important to most Americans, and they are very good people

because they have served us by fighting for and protecting our country. If I could do anything to make the world a better place to live in, it would be to honor veterans more throughout the year instead of only one day a year.

The role that I would play in making a positive change to honor veterans would be to make a list of the veterans that live in my neighborhood, church, and community and make cards, gifts, and cupcakes for them on other patriotic holidays like Memorial Day, Flag Day, and the Fourth of July instead of only on Veteran's Day. My Sunday School class can make cards for the veterans that are in the local hospital and nursing home and deliver the cards personally to them. The cards would have patriotic symbols and would say, “Thank you for being so good to our country. We appreciate your service and all that you have done for us.”

If I could do anything to make the world a better place to live in it would be to recognize our veterans more. Veterans have served our country, now we should serve them.



Lea Ellen Rogers

No Paper Next Week!

There will be no Mount Vernon Signal the week of January 1st.

Our next issue will be January 8th.

The Signal office will be closed December 24th through January 4th.



Caitlin and Austin Merry Christmas. We love and miss you. Love Bailey and Gavin Spoonamore

Thinking of You at Christmas

All of us at Brodhead Pharmacy would like to thank all of our customers for a great year.

Stop by to see us and let us help you with all your prescription needs.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Let us celebrate the birth of Jesus. God bless each and every one!



Front row from left:
Howard Saylor,
Brianna Mullins,
Michelle Coffey, Cherie Collins
and David Collins.
Back row from left:
Matthew Burkhart, Grahm Fay,
Rachelle Riddle and
Tommy Adams.

Not present:
Linda Wilson, Dennis Collins,
Carolyn Collins,
Brittany Perkins.

Howard Saylor
Pharmacist

Brodhead Pharmacy

David Collins
Owner

Main St. • Brodhead • 606-758-4373 • Open 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

CHURCH NEWS

Free Bible Courses

Free Bible Correspondence Course. Send your name and address to 3168 Quail Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456

Gospel Singing

Gospel singing at Crossroads Assembly of God located on US 150 December 28th starting at 6 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Eve Mass

Join us as we worship and praise our Heavenly Father for the gift of His Son. Let us come together to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Christmas Eve Mass will be held Wed., Dec. 24th at 10 p.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church, William St., Mt. Vernon. Refreshments will be served following Mass.

Wanted

Anyone willing to work anytime, anywhere, whenever called upon. No train-

ing necessary, male or female, any age. Any nationality, race, size, shape or form. All participants accepted. Report to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Welcome to attend Maple Grove Baptist Church. Best retirement and benefits available. Contact Bro. Jerry Owens for transportation at 606-256-3075.

Watch Night Service

Philadelphia United Baptist Church will have a Watch Night Service December 31st 8 p.m. to midnight. There will be singing and preaching. Eujan Webb and church welcomes everyone. We will be having snacks. Bring whatever.

Watch Night Service

Union Chapel Pentecostal Church will have a Watch Night Service December 31st starting at 8 p.m. with Evangelist Shannon Limeing. Pastor Ralph Reynolds invites everyone.

"Peace on Earth" seems an unlikely option this Christmas. War continues in Iraq and in many other countries around the world. People are killing each other even in places where there is no war. "There is no Peace on Earth" seems a more likely conclusion to draw. For those optimistic enough to believe that peace is a possibility, where should they begin?


"Peace on Earth" begins at home. Violence at home is still the most likely reason for a woman to be killed. Violence at home scars the kids and injures the adults. Violence at home spreads fear and anger throughout the household.

As a counselor I have had couples say to me, "Our children don't know we fight." That is denial of the worst kind. The children have most likely overheard Mom and Dad fighting when the parents thought they were asleep.

Even if the children have not heard, they "know." Kids have a sophisticated radar system that is tuned in to Mom and, secondarily, to Dad. When Mom is happy, they know it. When Mom is scared, they also know. While they may not have seen the actual conflict, they sense that something is amiss. They know that Mom is upset and Dad is angry. Violence at home affects them even if they have never seen it.

It is still true that most of the violent acts at home are committed by men. Yes, women are also capable of violence, but men lead the way. Only 5-10% of domestic violence is committed by women. Ninety-five percent of the time, the male is the aggressor.

What is it that makes some men so violent? Why is "peace on Earth" simply a pipe dream for many couples? The culture in which they live gives men permission to be violent. They grow up with heroes like Arnold



The Family Room
By: Dr. Roy Don Whitehead

Schwarzenegger, the governor of California, who is The Terminator on the big screen and has been reported to do degrading things to women in his private life. Boys watch professional wrestling which degrades women and glorifies violence. And other men may agree with them that sometimes it is necessary to "discipline the little woman" in the same way that children are disciplined.

The culture however does not make all men violent. Those who do become violent often have themselves been treated violently or

have witnessed violence. When Dad abuses them or they see him abuse Mom, they become angry. That anger then comes out later on in life, often at women, the same target that Dad chose.

Men who desire "Peace on Earth" must stand up and say that violence is not a part of what it means to be a man. The macho, machismo image of a "real man" must be laid to rest and replaced by the picture of a man who is tender and loving with his children and his wife.

Men who want peace must speak up and not tol-

erate violence. Men who want peace must not sit idly by while other men abuse spouses and children. Men who want peace must create a society which does not tolerate male (or female) violence.

Some countries have much less violence than the United States. Japan's murder rate is lower than in the U.S., perhaps due to their strict gun laws. Canada, which has more guns per person than the U.S., has a lower murder rate. Canadians have the means to kill but they do not, or at least not as often as Americans.

Something is wrong in America, and the problem begins at home. Stopping domestic violence will decrease the number of angry males who need to take their anger out on other citizens.

[If you need help because of a domestic violence situation, call Family Life Abuse Center at 800-755-5348.]

JOYS OF THE



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Join in singing Christmas hymns of praise

O, Come all Ye Faithful and
Join us as we worship and praise our Heavenly father for the gift of His Son. Let us come together to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve Mass

Wednesday, December 24 @ 10 p.m. at
Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church
Williams Street • Mt Vernon, Ky.

The people of Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church wish each and everyone a Blessed and Holy Christmas and a Faith Filled New Year.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

from everyone at

The Banner

Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon • 256-9914



Front row from left: Tia Rogers and Christi Cahill.
Back row from left: John Tyler, Alex Tyler and Tom Tyler.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

from everyone at



Warm wishes to all of you for a joyous holiday season.

Many thanks for your continued patronage.



Front row from left: Sherry Cox and Bootsie Shepherd.
Back row from left: Brandi Lee, Mark Cathers, Courtney Hansel and Karen Durham.

Tiger Pause

Thanks to everyone that helped with and attended the December PTA meeting. BES celebrated the holidays with a family arts night. BES principal, Mrs. Caroline Graves, read

students "The Night Before Christmas". Students and their families painted wooden Christmas ornaments, choosing from gingerbread men, snowmen, or Christmas trees.



Santa Claus (John Holbrook) visits with Dylan and Emily Pigg at the BES PTA meeting.

Santa visited the children while they were painting their ornaments. BES thanks Mr. & Mrs. Arlis Proctor and John Holbrook for helping with our holiday family arts night.

Remember to check the lost and found box at school if your child is missing a coat. Any items remaining at the end of December will be donated to

charity.

BFRCA Advisory Council meeting is at noon on Friday, December 19.

Christmas break is December 22 - January 2. Students return to school on Monday, January 5.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from BES!



Mr. Arlis Proctor hands out wooden ornaments to students at BES Family Arts Night.



Scott Adams and daughter, Charity, painting ornaments.



Tommy Burdette killed this 12-point buck Nov. 17th in Rockcastle County. With Burdette is his grandson, Dalton.

The Board of Directors and staff of Eastern Rockcastle Water Association

wishes all our customers a



Looking forward to serving you in 2009

Open House

Sat., Jan. 3, 2009
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Peggy French and Pam Sturgill are the new owners of the former Marsha's Florist in Brodhead and the business will now be known as **Peg's & Pam's Florist**

We offer a wide selection of fresh cut and silk flower arrangements, casket sprays, live plants, Thomas Kinkade throws, Family Bibles and pictures. We also have windchimes, candles, Boyd's and Bearington Bears, cards and balloons. We have a large selection of headstone pieces and, new this year, we will rent silk casket sprays.

Come by Sat., Jan. 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for coffee, hot cocoa and cookies and look around.

Open 9 to 5 Mon. thru Friday and 9 to noon Saturdays
Orders also taken after hours and Sundays.

Season's Greetings

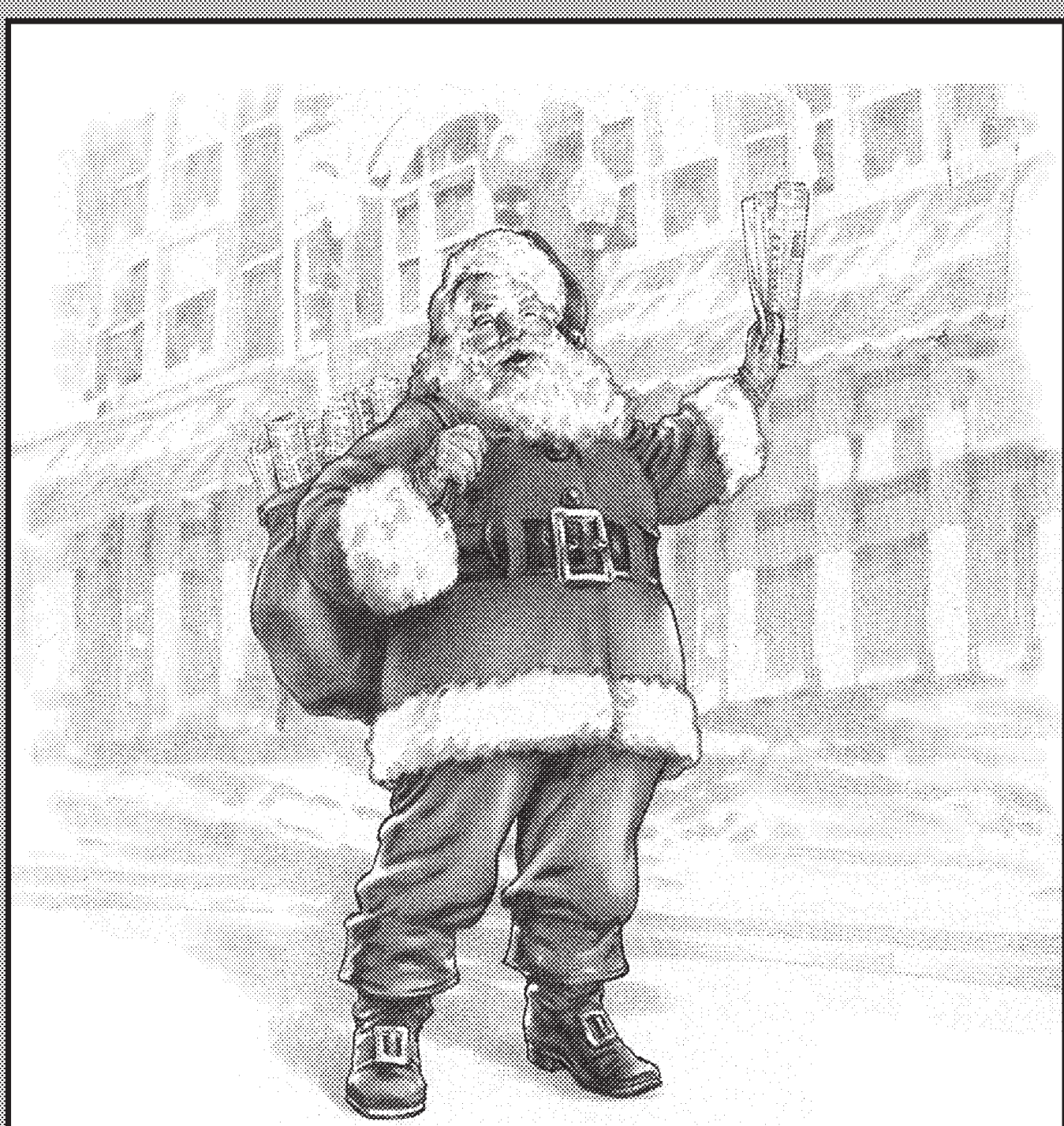
With warm regards to you and your family this holiday season. It's been a privilege and pleasure serving you.



Richard and Tammy Barnes • Tracie Smith

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Delivering Our Thanks

We're ho-ho-hoping a bundle of good news and glad tidings lands in your mailbox during the holiday season.

We appreciate your loyal readership.

Mount Vernon Signal

Perlina Anderkin, Richard and Vonda Anderkin,
Spencer and Paige Bengé
Jimmy Perrin



Lady Rocket Kristen Abney prepares to put the basketball in play against Somerset on Friday night. The Lady Rockets won 76-40 in their first district contest of the season.

Lady Rockets beat district foe Somerset

Middlesboro and Allen County-Scottsville also lose to Lady Rockets

By: Richard Anderkin
The RCHS Lady Rockets served notice to the rest of the 47th district on Friday night, that they will defend their district and region title with a vengeance.

After being tied with the Lady Briarjumpers at halftime in the first district game of the season at Somerset, the Lady Rockets put together an excellent second half and came away with a 36 point, 76-40, victory.

"We stood around a lot in the first half and let them get back into the game, but our players responded well to some changes we made at halftime," head coach Chrysti Noble said.

"Everybody did a better job in doing what they do well in the second half and everything clicked for us the way it is sup-

posed to," Noble said.

"It is a long year and we are just now beginning to play the games that count the most. We have got to continue to work hard to be able to accomplish the high goals we have set for this team, this season," she added.

On Friday night, the Lady Rockets were led in scoring by senior Mary Saylor who had 21. Sara Hammond contributed 17, Jackie Alexander, 13, Angie Lawrence, 10, Nicole Locklear, 7, Ashley Robinson, 4 and Katy Mattingly and Cheyene Hensley, 2 each.

On Saturday the Lady Rockets beat Middlesboro in the first round of the Cumberland Falls Classic in Corbin.

The Lady Yellowjackets were no match for the Lady Rockets, who beat them by 40, 78-38.

The Lady Rockets were led

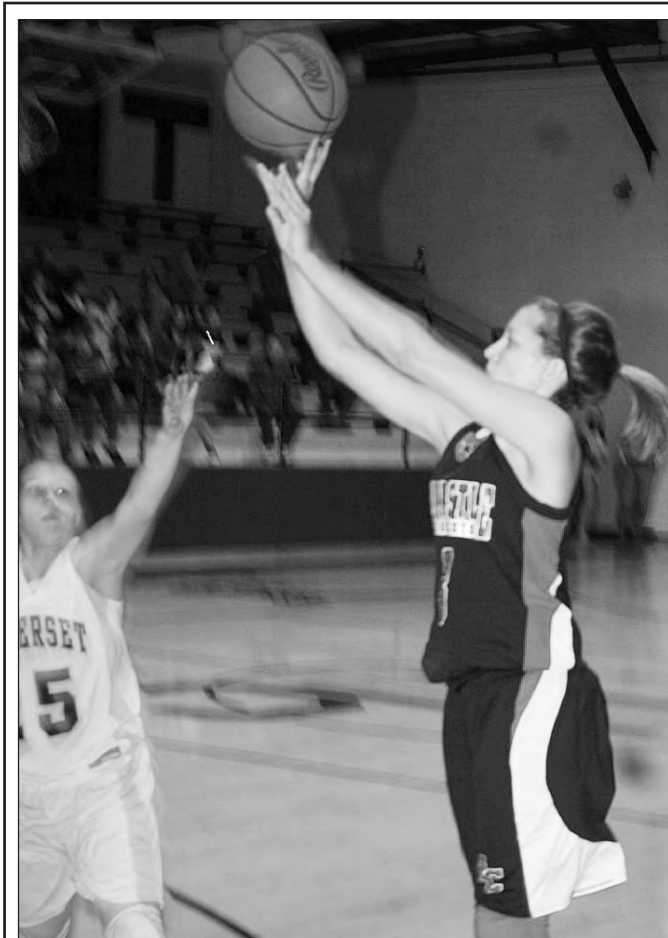
(Cont. to A14)



Lady Rocket Nicole Locklear puts up a jumper against Somerset on Friday night. Locklear had 7 points in the 76-40 district win over the Lady Briarjumpers.



Senior Katy Mattingly, applies pressure at half court during the Lady Rocket's district game with Somerset on Friday night. The Lady Rockets were tied with Somerset at half-time at 26, but came away with a 76-40 win.



Lady Rocket junior Jackie Alexander puts up a three pointer against Somerset on Friday night. Alexander had another good game, scoring 13 points to help the Lady Rockets to a 76-40 win.



RCHS senior Lady Rocket Jillisa Lay applies pressure to a Lady Jumper on Friday night. The Lady Rockets won 76-40.

Merry Christmas

Lisa and Leslie and all the employees at

Rose's One Stop Marathon Pizza and Cafe

would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to all our customers and invite you to stop by and try our fresh Krispy Kreme Donuts delivered daily, our hot Folgers coffee or Cappuccino, Hunt Brothers Pizza by the hunk or whole, or any other items on our menu which consists of a variety of sandwiches, burgers and fries.



From left: Lisa Saylor, Jayda Hubbard, Kisha Hubbard, Jayden Hubbard, Alice Hadley, Leslie Cordier, Patti Cox and Terra Bingham. Not present: Courtney Cordier.

Rockets lose at Somerset 52-50



Rocket junior guard Jamie Todd puts up a shot in the lane in the first half of the Rockets-Somerset game on Friday night. Although Todd suffered a sprained ankle in the second half, he still led the Rockets in scoring with 20. The Rockets lost the district contest 52-50.

The Rockcastle County Rockets trailed by as many as 13 in the third period of Friday night's district game in Somerset, before they fought back to take a two point lead over the Briarjumpsers 43-41 at the end of the period.

But, the Rockets couldn't close the deal, losing their third game of the season by two 52-50.

"I am proud of the way our players didn't quit and got themselves back into the game," said head coach Benny

Blanton. "Because we still haven't played or practiced together enough yet, we made some

mistakes that I don't think we'll be making in January," he said.

"The way they handled (Cont. to A14)



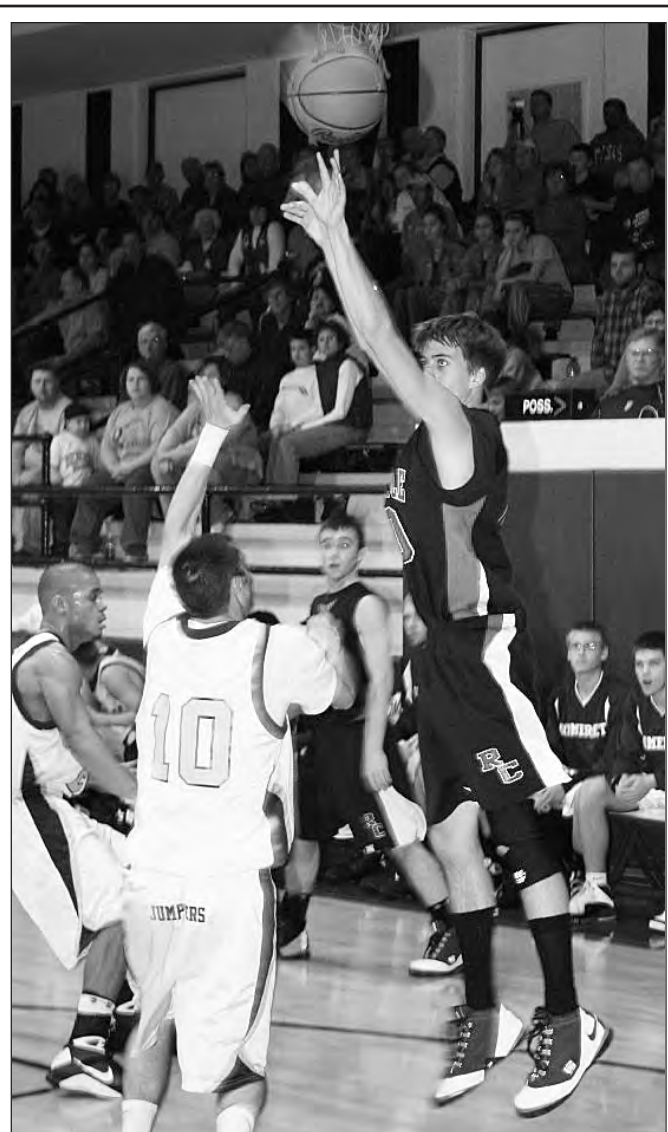
Rocket junior center Derek Thacker goes up for two of his 15 points against Somerset on Friday night. Besides scoring 15, Thacker was also a force for the Rockets on the boards.



Rocket senior Jared Smith drives to the basket in his team's district loss to Somerset on Friday night. The Rockets returned to action on Monday, when they began play in the Western Hills Invitational in Frankfort. The Rockets are now 3-3 on the season.



Junior Rocket Matt Bullens drives to the basket in an attempt to score two of his seven points against Somerset on Friday night. (RCHS photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Rocket junior Dustin Reynolds puts up a jumper in the Rocket-Somerset game on Friday night. Reynolds scored three points in the 52-50 district loss on the road.

Freshmen boys lose 3 straight

The boys' freshmen team played three games in the last week, against South Laurel, Know Central and Somerset.

The Freshmen fell by ten to South Laurel 54-44, and were led in scoring by Ben Lake who had 10.

Zach Reams had 9, Jadon Brock and Zach Walker had 8, Cody Noe 4, and Jordan Whitaker had 2.

The Freshmen couldn't get the going against Knox Central either as they fell 72-36.

The Freshmen Rockets were led in scoring again by center Ben Lake who had 8. Will Reynolds and Jadon Brock each put in 6, Zach Reams had 5, Cody Noe 4, Jason Kelley 3, and Zach Walker and Jordan Whitaker had 2.

Last Thursday night the Freshman lost to Somerset 52 to 39.

Brock led his team in scoring with 10, Lake had 9, Walker, 5, Whitaker, Kelley and Reynolds all had 4 and Reams scored 3.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



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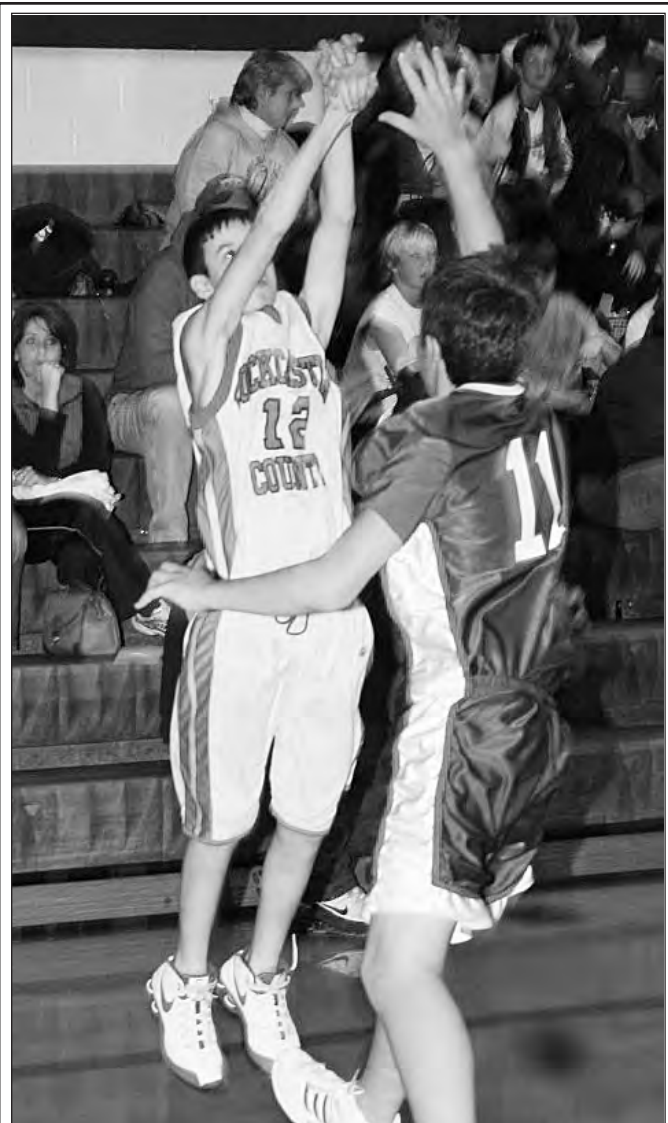
From left: Tara Brown, Allie Reynolds, pharmacist Danette Craig, Kevin Craig and Tanner Bray.

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RCMS 8th grader Tyler Smith drives to the basket in the 8th grade game against King Middle on Thursday night. The middle school teams are off for two weeks and will return to action on January 5th when they host Lincoln.



RCMS 7th grader Travis Bullock puts up a shot against King Middle on Thursday night. The 7th graders lost their ninth game of the season, 55-24.



RCMS 7th grader Cody Brown puts up a shot in his team's game against King Middle. All three RCMS teams lost and will return to action on January 5th when they host Lincoln County.

Boys JV win at Somerset

The Rocket junior varsity team beat Somerset 50-39 on the road last Thursday.

Travis Carpenter led all scorers with 19, Grant Burdette had 7, Matt Lunsford also had 7, Dylan Thacker, 6, Kyle Riddle, 4, Brandon Burdette, 3, Derrick Pittman, 2 and Josh McKinney, 2.

RCMS teams lose to King Middle

The RCMS Boys basketball teams were in action this past Thursday evening as they hosted King Middle. The sixth grade team kept it close throughout, but ended up on the losing end 31-27.

The sixth graders were led in scoring by Jacob McKinney who had 7. Sam Pensol had 6, Dakota Hasty and Douglas Nicely had 5, and Stephen Recor added 4. The sixth graders are now 3-8 on the year.

The 7th grade squad didn't have a good night either as they fell to King Middle 55-24. Leading all scorers with 8 was Corey McPhetridge. Andrew Burton had 4, Jarred Lakes and Jake Mink had 3, Tyler Harper, Tim Renner and John Hughes had 2 each. The seventh grade team is now 3-9 on the season.

The eighth grade team couldn't find a way to overcome their poor shooting percentage as they too fell to King Middle 55-38.

Blake Jones was the leading scorer with 14, Zack Poynter had 9, Chris Wren had 8, John Wilson 4, Ben Allen 2, and Eli Haddix had 1. The eighth graders are now 1-10 on the season.

Lady JVs easily beat Central

The Lady Rocket Junior Varsity and Freshmen basketball teams were in action on December 11 as they took on Madison Central.

The JV squad got the best of Madison Central winning by 20, 61-41.

Three Lady Rockets had double figures on the night. Angie Lawrence led the team with 17, Kristin Abney had 11 and Sydney Arvin added 10.

Other Lady Rockets who contributed in the scoring column were: Ella McQueary 8, Kadie Cobb 4, Holly Ham 3, Michaela Hunter and Megan Perkins had 2, and Casey Sturgill and Cheyenne Hensley each had 1.

Freshmen lose

The Lady Rocket Freshmen team didn't have their best outing of the season as they fell to Madison Central 48-30.

The Lady Rockets were led in scoring by Kadie Cobb and

Katie Cowan who each had 8, Alexis Chasteen 6, Michaela Hunter 5 and Bri Tillery had 3.

'Rockets'

(Cont. from A12)

themselves on the road, after falling behind, shows that this team wants to win and, with a lot of hard work and team play, they can do just that. The way we play in the two tournaments over the holidays will tell us a lot about the rest of the season," Blanton added.

Although he sprained an ankle in the third period on Friday night, junior Jamie Todd still led his team in scoring with 20.

Junior Derek Thacker had a very good game, scoring 15 points and grabbing numerous rebounds.

Matt Bullens scored 7, Dustin Reynolds, 3, Spencer Mullins and Matt Lunsford, 2 each and Bryan Clontz, 1.

The 3-3 Rockets were scheduled to play in the Western Hills Invitational in Frankfort on Monday.

After Christmas, the Rockets travel to Monticello for the Wayne County Invitational.

'Lady Rockets'

(Cont. from A12)

in scoring again by their senior point guard, Mary Saylor, who had 20.

Hammond had 14, Locklear, 11, Lawrence, 9, Mattingly, 8, Alexander and Robinson, 6 each, Kristen Abney, 3 and Ella McQueary, 2.

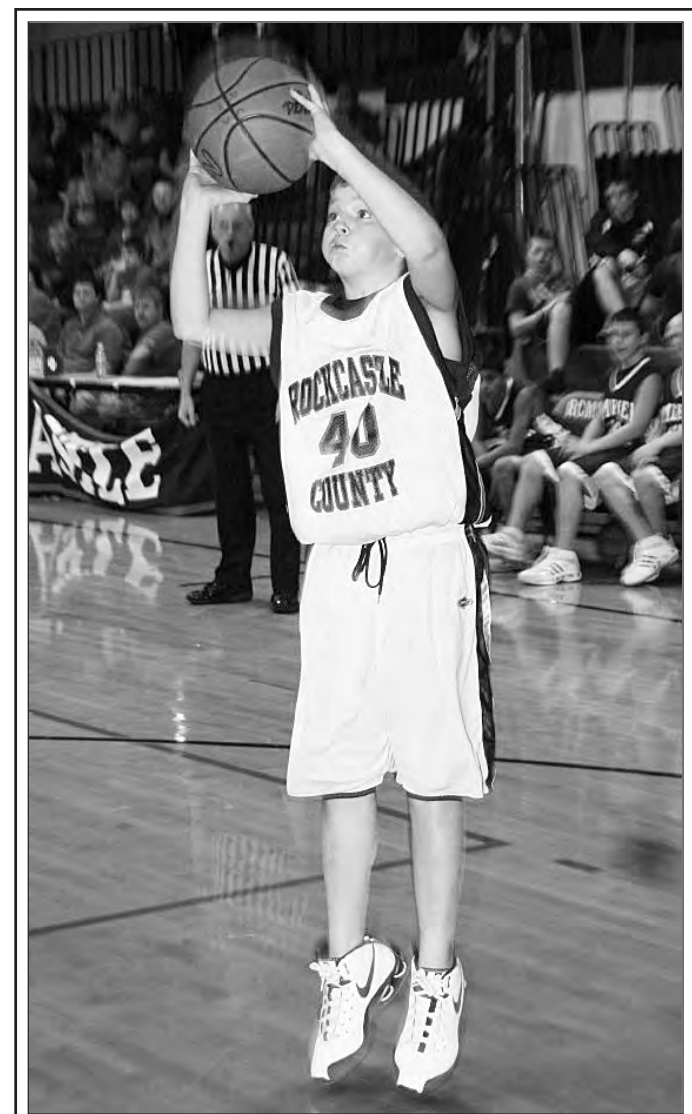
In the semi-finals of the tournament on Sunday afternoon the Lady Rockets defeated Allen County-Scottsville, 57 to 50.

The Lady Rockets trailed Allen County-Scottsville, who was 7-1 on the season, by one, 22-21 at the end of the first quarter but outscored their opponent by eight in the third period and held them off for their sixth win of the season.

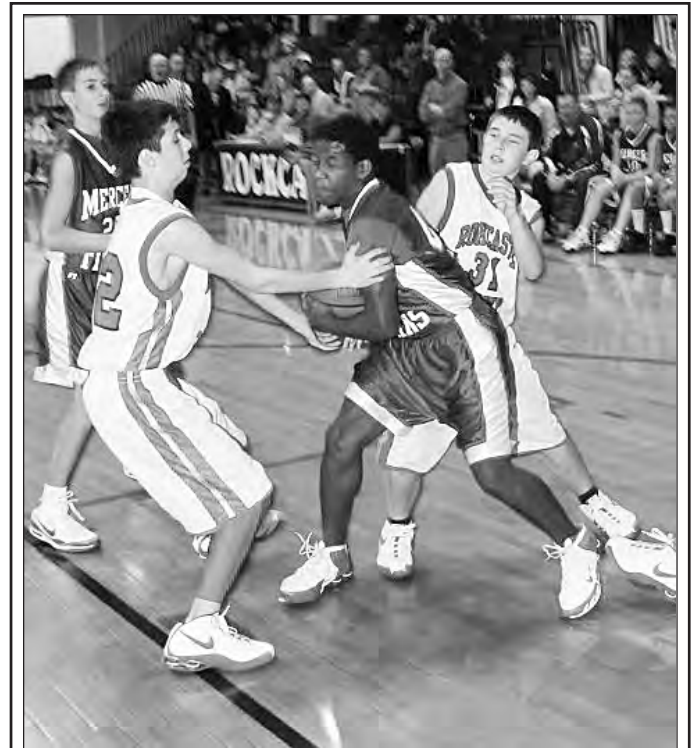
Junior Jackie Alexander led all scorers with 19. Robinson had 9, Saylor and Lawrence, 8 each, Hammond, 7, Mattingly, 5 and Jillisa Lay, 2.

The Lady Rockets were scheduled to play Jackson County in the finals of the tournament on Monday night.

After Christmas, the Lady Rockets head to Bowling Green to take part in the Greenwood Invitational Tournament.



RCMS 6th grader Douglas Nicely puts in a shot in the 6th grade game with King Middle. Nicely had five points in a losing effort. (RCMS photos by: Kevin Canterbury).



RCMS 8th grader Ashton Arvin, left and John Wilson apply pressure to a King Middle player on Thursday night. Wilson had four points in the 55-38 loss.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

With best wishes to you and yours this holiday season.

Rockcastle Sheriff Mike Peters and staff



From left: Deputy Clerk Connie Bullen, Deputy Ron Bradley, Jr., Sheriff Mike Peters, Deputy Shannon Franklin, Deputy Rick Brummett, Deputy Jason Kirby and Deputy Tammy Bryant.

Not shown:

Deputies Barry Adams, Mike Bryant, Dale McNew, Derrick Price, Ron Bradley, Sr., Joe Rush, Stanley Payne, Ed Brock, John Guilfoil and Roger Pigg.

Rockcastle County Courthouse • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-2032

Merry Christmas



Rockcastle County 10-year-old 4-H Speech Contest participants were front from left: Micheala Hurt, Leah Bustle, Emily Childress, Marina Blevins, Zeb Davis and Aaron Pevley. Back row from left: Laney Poynter, Christina Hensley, Julianne Kirby, Caroline Coguer, Lucas Gentry and Jacob Taylor.



Four students from the Launch Pad (Freshmen Academy) at Rockcastle County High School were recognized as students of the month. Pictured above from left: Jadon Brock, Casey Hunt, Bailey Lake, Jordan Kelley, and Launch Pad teacher Matthew Brown.

Launch Pad announces students of the month

On November 20th, 2008 four students from the Launch Pad (Freshmen Academy) at Rockcastle County High School were recognized as students of the month. Jadon Brock, Casey Hunt, Jordan Kelley, and Bailey Lake were the four students selected by the teachers in the Launch Pad as being most deserving of this distinguished honor for the month of November.

The four students were given a radio spot on the air at 1460 WRVK for thirty minutes. Mr. Charlie Napier hosted the interview which included the students and myself. Mr. Napier asked the students to tell the audience a little bit about themselves, what they thought high school would be like, if they were nervous about the transition from middle school to high school, any fears they had about changing schools, and how the Launch Pad teachers have helped them with navigation of a new school and helped ease their transition into high school.

After the radio spot, the students were rewarded with a tour through the Renfro Valley Country Music Hall of Fame and lunch at the Lodge.

"I would like to thank Mr.

Charlie Napier, Mr. Jesse Mahaffey, and Mrs. Ruth Hamilton for making this recognition trip possible for these students. I would also like to

thank these four students for being great kids and setting an example for others to follow," said Launch Pad teacher Matthew Brown.



Rockcastle County winners of the 4-H Speech Contest were, front from left: Amelia Eversole, Anna Poynter, Emily Childress, Anna Carter and Alyssa Bustle. Back row from left: Danielle McNew, John David Hurley, Micheala Hurt, Kelsey Mattingly, John Hughes and Laiken Coffey. These participants will compete in the Spring at the 4-H Communications Day for Wilderness Trail Area.




Rockcastle County 12, 13 and 14-year-old 4-H Speech Contest participants were front from left: Amelia Eversole and Casey Walker. Back row from left: Danielle McNew, Laiken Coffey, Kelsey Mattingly and John Hughes.



Rockcastle County 9-year-old 4-H Speech Contest participants were front from left: Tara Mink, Anna Carter and Alyssa Bustle. Back row from left: Heaven Davidson, Kristen Day and Cassie Poynter.

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Holiday CHEER



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*Closing at noon Christmas Eve
 Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day*

Merry Christmas

from

Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis

and the

Rockcastle County Fiscal Court

May this great season find each of you in health and good will for your neighbors and families.

Our personal wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Front row from left: Amanda Owens, Court Clerk Patricia Martin, County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis and County Treasurer Joe Clontz. Back row from left: magistrates John Holbrook, Jan Stevens, William Denney, Billy McKinney and Ralph Allen.

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Yards to Paradise

"At Home for the Holidays"

Sooner or later you'll be staying home for the holidays. Maybe a weak economy has you traveling less, or perhaps you're saving for the "trip of a lifetime".

Some love to play the host for get-togethers. Others drive or fly for extended hours in "rush hour" conditions to reach a destination of their choosing which may or may not provide fun or tranquility. For whatever reason, if you have time to read the paper, you probably have time for a few ideas on doing something fresh and new at your place.

The routine visit to grandma's house, or an extended weekend excursion to a waterfront location in the off-season when things are quiet and peaceful (and more economical); those are some choices if you choose not to stay at home during the holidays.

But, this is a landscaping column and not a travel column, so I am thinking you're either wanting ideas to better welcome guests to your place, or you are already wishing for warmer weather and longer days so you can spend time in the backyard.

Here's a few ideas to help get past the cold or snow and employ creatively those days you usually stare out the window and shiver.

Dreaming now can lead to more of a paradise sometime in the future. Give the dreams room to develop and see what happens.

Not everyone is driven inside by chillier weather. Some actually enjoy it. Of course, I doubt there'll be a need for swimsuits or sun-tan cream unless you have an enclosed and heated pool or glass-enclosed sun room, Florida room, or outdoor greenhouse.

A walk in a private or semi-private backyard can be nice even in frigid weather if you're dressed well for the conditions. Seeing the squirrels or chipmonks scurry out of sight is much easier when the deciduous trees and plants have become naked after losing their leaves.

Tree trunks of many shapes and textures, maybe limbs of unusual shapes or colors, may catch your eye. Things you'd never pay attention to in summer when the shrubbery is cloaked in green can give you a whole different dimension to appreciate this time of year.

Maybe you could, if you haven't already, put up a feeder for the birds. And on a winter stroll, you may see where the robins or the squirrels made a nest and raised families last summer. Birds need an unfrozen wa-

tering hole to get a drink in winter—maybe you could provide them a place.

If you're thinking of outdoor entertaining in cooler weather, a fire of some type is almost a requirement. A trip to a home & garden store or a pool and patio merchant for a "ready-to-use" firepit or chimenea can meet the need quickly. A more substantial (but not instant) outdoor fireplace, in-ground firepit or stone oven could offer a bigger plus towards the ultimate backyard paradise.

Some outdoor lighting, whether traditional holiday lighting or simply a few inexpensive solar lights to light walkways and some points of interest, could make your home brighter this holiday season. Try something different. It doesn't have to be permanent or expensive. Experiment.

Suppose your home needs a makeover to give it curb appeal. Maybe the drive, or the walk, are boringly plain. Or in need of repairs. Would a new stamped concrete or brick paver drive be a huge improvement to your home? Would a new, wider, or stone topped walkway to your front door give your house some pop and make it more welcoming? Dream a bit. Even if it's not in the budget to do major improvements at the moment.

I've seen a number of tired looking brick homes get a paint job and fresh new shrubbery. The results can be stunning. Even making visitors double-check the house number to verify they've come to the right address!

Would a new entry door or extended entry way be something you should consider? Remember, our theme is transforming your yard—your abode—your address—into paradise. Most of us have to do that in steps. (Hopefully following a plan, even if it gets changed from time to time.)

If the view from the street is OK at your place, how about the view from inside? Do you look out your window and see a perfectly lovely view? I wonder if there is a simple change you could make to improve that look?

Whatever your reason for spending time at home this holiday season, I encourage you to make productive use of idle moments when you stare out on a bleak landscape. Dream of what could be.

Paradise is not created instantly. Have a blessed holiday season. And we'll have more ideas in future articles on turning your yard into paradise.

The author is a landscaper. Ideas, calls and emails welcomed.
www.rockcastles.com

Heating crisis program begins on January 5th

The Rockcastle County Daniel Boone Community Action Agency will begin the "Crisis" portion of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that assists households in a heating crisis on January 5th of 2009.

The deepening of cold winter weather, combined with rising utility costs, leaves many households unable to fully meet heating bills or purchase sufficient bulk fuel to keep their families safe and warm.

Last year over 1,000 county residents received financial assistance and emergency services from the LIHEAP Crisis component.

A household shall be considered to be in a home heating crisis situation when the household meets the basic LIHEAP eligibility criteria and:

- the household is within four (4) days of running out of fuel if bulk fuel, (coal, fuel oil, propane, kerosene, or wood) is the heat source.
- the household has received a past due/disconnect notice if natural gas or electric is the heat source; or
- the household's home heating costs are included as an undesignated portion of the rent and the household has received an eviction notice for non-payment of rent from the landlord.

For all bulk fuels (wood, coal, propane, fuel oil, kerosene) verification of a crisis situation may be self-declaration by the applicant. For natural gas and electrically heated households, the applicant must present an appropriate disconnect notice from the vendor.

Applications will be taken at convenient CAP locations. Applicants are encouraged to apply at the location nearest to them in their county or residence. Days, hours of operation and locations for Rockcastle County are: Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Daniel Boone Community Action Agency, Main St., Mt. Vernon.

LIHEAP is a statewide initiative sponsored by Community Action Kentucky in partnership with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS)

Signal office will be closed December 24th - January 4th



As the days until Christmas dash by, we'd like to take time out to thank all of you for stopping by our way this year.

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LONDON

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BEREA

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MT. VERNON

635 Richmond Street
606-256-9300

DANVILLE

905 Hustonville Rd.
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From left: Tom Tyler, John Tyler, Tim Hampton and Anthony Lear.

Merry Christmas



May peace and glad tidings visit your home this holiday season. We're grateful for your visiting us this year. Thanks!

Rose Hill Auto Sales and Bee Jay's

Carlos, Tara & employees

9207 N. Wilderness Rd. • Mt. Vernon

Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Yes, Virginia, there is a

Santa Claus, aka John Holbrook

Yes, Virginia, there is a... John Holbrook Does Rockcastle County

Magistrate John Holbrook believe in Santa? "Certainly."



72-year-old John Holbrook has made over 100,000 key chains in his workshop at his home on Lake Linville.

Passersby often address Holbrook as Santa Claus. Even on his business card, Holbrook lists the jolly old man as one of several professions. The white hair and fluffy beard, and favorite red shirts and caps add credibility to his claim. Every year, two weeks before Christmas, Magistrate Holbrook dons the entire get-up – red fur-lined suit and cap, black belt and boots – and makes a daily appearance as Santa at the local Wendy's restaurant. He also is the special guest at various parties and private family functions throughout the holiday season.

"Kids believe and are usually eager to talk with me," Holbrook said. "But I've had some adults tell me I'm not fat enough to be Santa!"

The full beard is real. Holbrook said he began growing it while he was a graduate student at the University of Kentucky in 1971. He earned

his master's degree in social work and began a career as a child welfare worker in 1972. Although the name of the department has changed with each political administration, Holbrook said he has always worked in public assistance. Now he is dedicated to public service and in his third term as District One magistrate.

"I always thought I could make a difference," the 72-year-old public official said.

Holbrook's philosophy is simple: Stay busy. Besides his annual stints as Santa, Holbrook's many other "professions" included serving as stand-up comedian, poet laureate, magician, storyteller and wood spirit carver.

Carving keeps Holbrook busy. Seldom is he without a pocketful of carved key chains, bearing faces of wood spirits. The tiny faces with long beards, furrowed brows, wide noses and mouths pursed in an "O" shape are Holbrook's trademark. Although carved with the same electric tool, "each face is a little different, a little unique," he said.

Holbrook taught himself how to carve in 1990, and has kept at it all these years. He figures he has made over 100,000 key chains, and although he has supplied a vendor in Berea with many of his items, he has given most of them away. When he ran for magistrate, he would hand them out to potential voters, some even with the names of residents carved into the smooth backs. Also, Holbrook carves wood spirits on walking sticks, earrings, Christmas ornaments and even tobacco sticks.

There are hundreds of walking sticks and wood spirit

faces of all sizes in his workshop behind his home on Lake Linville. Holbrook ventures into the woods and uses pruners to cut Mountain Laurel and Sassafras trees for his hobby. Sometimes people bring him deer antlers, which he also carves for key chains.

Staying busy also means spending time with his wife of 46 years, Faye, who is an avid quilter; two children, and 80 nieces and nephews. Born in Letcher County, Holbrook is one of 10 children and is currently serving his third term as first district magistrate.

Serving his county as magistrate, entertaining children as Santa Claus, generously giving away carved trinkets to neighbors and strangers, Holbrook sums it up: "I just like to see people happy."

As newsman Francis P. Church wrote in his Sept. 21, 1897 editorial in response to 8-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon, "How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus... Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity

(Cont. to B3)



For many years John Holbrook has played Santa to the delight of hundreds, possibly thousands of Rockcastle County children. His last day on the job at Wendy's in Mt. Vernon will be Tuesday, December 23rd from 4-6 p.m.



Holbrook carves faces of wood spirits with each being a little different, a little unique.

*Peace
on
Earth*

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Pictured front row from left: Rebecca Renner, Amelia Woodall, Trina Frederick, produce manager Evelyn Fletcher, manager Linna Stewart, office manager Vanessa Hasty, Chelsea Hasty, Lavon Jett and Becky Lawrence. Second row from left: asst. manager Danny Smith, Lynda Neely, Brittany Scalf, Mickel McDaniels, LouElla Gadd, Vernon Bussell, Darrell Stewart, Travis Still, Jacob Bowman, Erick Bowling, Dustin Hale, Andy Hall and Amy Davis.

Not pictured: Danny Hurley, Tina Gail Bowling, asst. manager Thomas Oakley, Kayla Pingleton, LaRussa Lakes, Dana Cash, Callie Thomas, Anthony Prewitt, Blake Powell and Benton Doan.

**Closing at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day
Open regular hours New Year's Eve and New Year's Day**

News from the Rockcastle Courthouse

Circuit Civil Suits

Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc. vs. Johnny Bussell, \$54,242.35 plus claimed due.

Daimler Chrysler Financial vs. Paul Evans, et al., \$5,917.96 plus claimed due.

L&N Federal Credit Union vs. Virginia A. Pheanis, \$5,265.04 plus claimed due.

Midland Funding LLC vs. Bert C. Newcomb, \$8,119.96 plus claimed due.

Amy J. Quinn vs. Robert Eugene Proper, complaint for child support.

John Randall Barnett vs. Edith Faye Barnett, petition for dissolution of marriage. C-00344

District Civil Suits

Asset Acceptance LLC vs. Mary Price, \$3,733.19 plus claimed due.

Asset Acceptance LLC vs. James P. York, \$274.98 plus

claimed due.

Capital One Bank vs. James S. Franklin, \$1,215.07 plus claimed due.

Asset Acceptance LLC vs. Shane B. Rice, \$765.02 plus claimed due. C-00314

Small Claims

Jackson Energy Cooperative Corp. vs. Phil Mowery, \$1,079.52 plus claimed due.

Marriage Licenses

Bethany Brook Taylor, 19, Brodhead, student to Andrew Justin Gilbert, 24, Brodhead, welder. 12/10/08.

Jessica Shay King, 18, Mt. Vernon, McDonald's and PJ's Daycare, to Brandon Scott Reynolds, 19, Mt. Vernon, McDonald's. 10/12/08.

Bridget Nicole Wesley, 17, Livingston, student to Jeffery Lynn Mullins, 19, Livingston, IGA. 12/15/08.

Heather Nicole Adams, 23, Brodhead, student to Christopher Dale McGuire, 24, Orlando, teacher. 12/16/08.

Lourdes Melendez, 33, Mt. Vernon, assembly to Victorino Valve, 36, Mt. Vernon, waiter. 12/17/08.

Deeds Recorded

Estate of Ira Glen Partin, Beth Ann and Ira Glen Partin, and others, property on Hwy. 1505, to Donna G Parker. Tax \$65.

Michael S. Gabbard, Ingrid E. DeKauwe and Mark Mangus, property on Clear Creek Road, to Mark Mangus. No tax.

Eugene and Nivra Senters, property on old U.S. 25, to Larry and Tammarra Senters. Tax \$3.50.

Jack and Dawn Stallworth, property in Rockcastle County, to Ricky and Sharon Mullins. Tax \$17.50.

Green Tree Servicing LLC, property in Rockcastle County, to Wayne and Christine McClure. Tax \$45.

District Court

Dec. 15-17, 2008

Hon. Jeffrey S. Laswell
Solache Mora Armando: no operator's license in possession, \$50 fine and costs.

William B. Cromer: probation violation, 30 days in jail.

John D. Melton: No operator's license in possession, \$50 fine and costs.

Donald E. Damreell: escape, 10 days/consecutive w/ balance of DUI.

Elliott J. Dooley: failure to issue insurance card, \$50 plus costs; no operating license in possession, \$50 fine; contempt of court, \$50 fine plus time served.

Randall S. Rose: possession of marijuana, use/possession drug paraphernalia, public intoxication, 10 days/concurrent.

Lisa M. Bennett: failure to maintain insurance, \$500 fine plus restitution.

Phillip J. Bingham: fines/fees due (\$128), bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to pay, 3 days or payment.

Steven Blackwell: failure to produce insurance card, \$50 fine plus costs; failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine.

Michael B. Blair: theft by deception, 10 days in jail/probated two years plus restitution.

Roy C. Branstetter: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, sentencing order entered.

James A. Dawson: failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine; no operators license in possession, \$100 fine and costs.

Jerry L. Denny, Jr.: receiving stolen property over \$300, sentencing order entered.

William W. Farmer: receiving stolen property, sentencing order entered.

Crystal Fields: speeding and failure to produce insurance card, operator's license suspended for failure to appear (fta).

Tavorres Goins: speeding and failure to maintain insurance, operator's license suspended for fta.

Robert L. Lear, Jr.: no/ex-

pired Kentucky registration receipt, reg. & title requirements veh. not oper. on hwy., failure to produce insurance card, bw issued for fta.

Denna R. Newcomb: failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine.

Charlie R. Page, Sr.: resisting arrest, \$100 fine; illegal sale of alcohol in dry territory, \$100 fine and costs.

Brent A. Powell: fines/fees due (\$323), bw issued for fta/7 days or payment.

Speeding: Melanie B. Ransdell, \$38 fine plus costs; John G. Crawford, operator's license suspended for fta; Duane E. Didonato, \$16 fine and costs; Victor M. Lucas, paid;

Daisy A. Wheatley: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, sentencing order entered.

Michael W. Wombles: fines/fees due (\$188), bw issued for fta/5 days or payment.

Kentucky Crossword # 394

www.kentuckycrosswords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15						16			
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67				68						69			

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- ACROSS
- 1 Radiate
 - 5 Plant
 - 10 Think (over)
 - 14 Kentuckian, NPR broadcaster Adams
 - 15 Pleasant Island
 - 16 Stage solo
 - 17 Opposed
 - 18 Tennessee footballer
 - 19 Mend
 - 20 University at Bowling Green
 - 22 Pinpointed
 - 24 Nonprofessional
 - 25 Senses
 - 27 Chomper
 - 30 Lawyers' org.
 - 31 Lazes about
 - 35 Sore
 - 36 KY county, taken from Livingston in 1842
 - 38 Originally named
 - 39 Mayan
 - 40 Writer Fleming
 - 41 ___ king
 - 42 A KY county named for the river which runs through it
 - 45 Scarf material
 - 46 Theater for Kentuckian William Ray
 - 47 Grade A item
 - 48 Aerosol
 - 49 Increase
 - 51 Challenger
 - 52 KY county, home to Old Fort Harrod State Park
 - 55 KY county, home to Paintsville Lake
 - 59 Frenzied
 - 60 Dire
 - 63 Mammoth or onyx
 - 64 Slope
 - 65 Irish playwright
 - 66 Broadcast
 - 67 Capacity unit
 - 68 Survey
 - 69 Cincinnati nine
- DOWN
- 1 Vex
 - 2 Solitary, or a Lee Co. area
 - 3 Horse feed
 - 4 KY county, original home of KFC
 - 5 Portal
 - 6 Common street
 - 7 Except
 - 8 Time period
 - 9 Kentuckian, actress Irene
 - 10 KY county, home to Berea College
 - 11 Russian river
 - 12 Old money
 - 13 ___ Between the Lakes
 - 21 Ring site
 - 23 KY county with 50 miles of shoreline on Barren River Lake
 - 25 J. Edgar Hoover's org.
 - 26 Restaurant activity
 - 27 Old Louisville holding company, ___ Kentucky
 - 28 Freeze
 - 29 Motif
 - 30 Limb band
 - 32 KY county, site of Lindsey Wilson College
 - 33 Chap
 - 34 Serpentine
 - 36 Elevator part
 - 37 Little bit
 - 39 Native KY county of Pee Wee Reese
 - 43 Home county of the Ohio River town of Augusta, KY
 - 44 Years ___
 - 45 KY county, home to Taylorsville Lake State Park
 - 48 Musical syllable
 - 50 Sketches
 - 51 First Kentuckian inducted into Country Music Hall of Fame
 - 52 Artist Chagall
 - 53 Mideast ruler
 - 54 Spanish flower
 - 55 Kentuckian, country singer Naomi
 - 56 Identical
 - 57 "Tristia" poet
 - 58 Earns
 - 61 Brainpower
 - 62 Kind of shot
- SUNS WITE JESSE
USER EVER IRATE
CHRISTIAN WANDER
REV GEMEN DAY
ERE SLASS EASY
SOB NETCHER
RAPT ERE WORE
UREA ETHIC POSE
PINTO CASH EDED
LEAS SHIRE REP
FEE BANLOW TLO
ACTOR WICKLIFFE
RHODA EPERE SLIT
MONEY SERE STEINS
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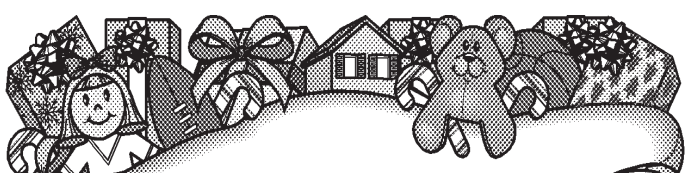
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Merry Christmas



a load of thanks

It's time to deliver our message of goodwill and gratitude to the many kind folks who have visited us this year. Have a very merry season!

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Holiday Sale

25% Off

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(Excludes Furniture Now 10% Off)

Wishing You a Merry Christmas!

Christmas shopping at Health and Rehab Center

It's that time of year when the residents at Rockcastle Health and Rehab Center get to do their Christmas shopping. Thanks to First Baptist

Church of Mt. Vernon every year on the first Tuesday in December, they provide items for our residents to "shop" for their family

members.

Members of First Baptist Church come to the facility with lots of items so that the residents have the freedom of shopping – and they never have to leave the facility! Residents can "purchase" gifts for their family members and also for their self – and best of all it's FREE! First Baptist always has plenty of members to wrap the residents' purchases. For

residents not able to come to the shopping spree, First Baptist members will load a cart with gift items and go room to room so that every resident has an opportunity to "shop".

First Baptist Church has provided this shopping spree for the residents for the past 15 years. Residents and staff would like to say Thank You First Baptist Church for your kindness.



Pictured from left, Kathy Wright brings Laura Daniels to the shopping spree. Helping is Betty Cain, member of First Baptist Church.



Members of First Baptist Church wrap presents for Evelyn Poynter.



Cindy Mink picking out presents at the shopping spree and Rockcastle County Health and Rehab Center.



Cora Norton got help shopping from her room from members of First Baptist Church.



John Holbrook has hundreds of walking sticks, like the one above in his workshop.

"Santa"

(Cont. from B1)

and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy."

Yes, there is a John Holbrook, and he exists as certainly as generosity and service to neighbors exist.

Reprinted with permission of the Kentucky Association of Counties', *County Line Magazine*....



Here's hoping your Christmas is sheer purr-fection!
It's been great having you as our customer.

Merry Christmas from everyone at
Rockcastle Veterinary Clinic



Front row from left: Dr. James Chism and Marcia Chism.
Middle row from left: Sue Rodefer and Kathy Bryant.
Back row from left: Brandon Gray, Brenda Estes, Amanda Chism, Joan Linville and Kayla Dobbs.
Not present was Gina Combs whom we wish a very speedy recovery!

School St. • Mt. Vernon • 256-2801

Closing at noon Christmas Eve - Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day



As we celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, it is a time to reflect on our many blessings, and be thankful for all that the Lord has done for us.

We would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" for your patronage this past year.

Merry Christmas!

Betty, Mary, Harold, Rachel, Sarah, Laura, Louise, Joyce & Jamie

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5&10

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Mt. Vernon
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Recycling program underway in Rockcastle Schools

Rockcastle County students are learning first hand about the three Rs: reduce, reuse and recycle. The county's schools have joined a recycling program launched by Joanie Alexander, a Rockcastle County High School junior, in cooperation with the Rockcastle County Solid Waste Office. The program is sponsored by Citizens Bank and Community Trust Bank.

All Rockcastle County schools are participating in the recycling program, including the Area Technology Center, Academy for Academic Achievement and Central Office.

"I got the recycling bins placed in every school a few weeks ago," said Alexander, who began the school recycling project after graduating from the Rogers Scholars program in July. "It took awhile to get everything going, but it's finally underway! The project seems to be doing really well." She thanked those who have made the program possible, with special thanks to Citizens Bank President Corey Craig.

Three bins were placed in each room for the recycling of paper, plastic and aluminum. The Solid Waste Office provided large bins for central collection points, such as hallways. James Renner, the county's solid waste and PRIDE coordinator, picks up the recyclables from each school.

Renner said the schools are collecting more recyclables, especially paper, since the bins were placed in all classrooms. He began picking up recyclables at the schools last year, but some schools chose not to participate and the main item collected was cardboard.

"I want to thank Joanie for getting the money for the bins

and placing them, and everyone who made that possible," Renner said. "We're really happy to see the schools come on board with recycling."

Citizens who want to recycle can use the free drop-off center at 2528 South Wilder-ness Road. It's open 7 a.m. until 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. The center accepts plastics #1-7, any paper, cardboard, metal cans, aerosol cans, aluminum cans, glass, rechargeable batteries, computer equipment and most electronics (no TVs or microwaves). For more information, call Renner at 256-1902.

"Some community drop-off points for recycling will be available in the next six months," Renner added. The county received a state grant to purchase portable drop-off containers, and Renner said they will be in place by July.

"I congratulate Joanie on making her vision a reality, and I appreciate Citizens Bank, Community Trust Bank and the Solid Waste Office for supporting this important project," said Tammie Wilson, PRIDE vice president and chief operating officer. "Recycling is such an easy way to reduce the energy and natural resources needed to make products we use every day. By recycling in school, students will pick up a good habit for life."

"The Center is very pleased that Joanie chose to partner with PRIDE in such an innovative way," said Jessica Melton, associate director of education and training for The Center for Rural Development, which sponsors the Rogers Scholars program. "By coordinating such a large-scale and environmentally conscious project, we feel she has become a role model for how Rogers Scholars participants can and

should 'think big' when planning their community service component projects. We salute Joanie for her groundbreaking efforts."

Rogers Scholars are tasked with starting a community service project in their hometowns. The Rogers Scholars program is an intensive, one-week summer course that develops technological skills and fosters an entrepreneurial spirit, leadership and commitment to rural Kentucky. Sixty high school juniors are selected

from 42 counties in southern and eastern Kentucky for the program annually. For more information, visit the Rogers Scholars web site at www.rogersscholars.com.

Alexander won the region's PRIDE Volunteer of the Month Award in September for launching the recycling program. PRIDE promotes environmental cleanup and education in 38 counties of southern and eastern Kentucky. The PRIDE web site is www.kypride.org.



Joanie Alexander, who organized the school recycling program, with Corey Craig, president of Citizens Bank, the program's primary sponsor. Three recycling bins, pictured below, were placed in each classroom to collect paper, plastic and aluminum.



Library News

Pam Chaliff



It's time once again for "Books For Bikes." This is the Library's sixth year for this event and this time will be different than ever before.

Our program is "Books for Bikes: Reading for Wheels" and there will be a variety of prizes, including scooters, bikes, hi-tide casters and skateboards.

The rules remain the same Children 3-12 may participate and can check out books from the public library, the bookmobile or their school library.

Forms will be available at the library for the child to either draw a picture or tell about each book they have read. These forms must be returned to the library in order for the child to be eligible for the prizes.

Registration for this year's program begins December 29th. Prizes are on display in the main library.

Further details, concerning the "Reading Social and prize drawing, will be given at a later date.

The library will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The library will also close at 4 p.m. on New Year's Eve and be closed New Year's Day.

The Library staff wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

At times, the library may not be open during regular hours due to weather conditions. Closings will be announced on WRVK.

Mt. Vernon Chiropractic

Dr. Max Meyer and staff would like to thank all of our patients for giving us the opportunity to serve you.

To all we wish a



and a New Year filled with health, peace and prosperity.

Massage Therapy Available beginning December 22nd

Covered by: Auto Accidents, Workers Comp, Humana, Anthem, and most other major medical insurance. We will verify coverage for you.

Gift Certificates Are Available! They make a perfect gift for Christmas!

70 School Street • Mt. Vernon (Former KU Bldg.) 606-256-1986

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CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

from the folks at

Brodhead Tobacco & Tanning

With sincere best wishes to all during this season of peace and joy. We're so glad to have friends and neighbors like you.



Shown in front is Mike Brown. Back row from left: Ginny Todd, Sue Brown, Marie Carter, Jason Carter, Debbie Santo, Gary Santo and Elisha York. Also shown are security detail Charlie Brown and Poochie Carter.

Hwy. 150 • Brodhead • 606-758-4328

Closing at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day • Open regular hours New Year's Day

MERRY CHRISTMAS

May the blessings of Christmas be with you today and always.

Thank you and Happy Holidays

from

Sabrina's Hair Design



Seated from left: Lindsey Carpenter, Stephanie Cameron and Erin Maggard.

Back row from left: Tina Abney, Sabrina Bishop, Sheila Nicely and Laronda Bingham

Closed December 24th - 26th • Open New Year's Day

Chamber holds annual Christmas Dinner



Some of those in attendance at the recently held Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley, were from left: Jim Bullock, Gertha Mink and Roy Donovan Adams.



Over 30 people attended the annual Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum, including, from left: J.B. Stevens, Jay Lawson and Shauna Lawson.



Members of the Rockcastle County High School Chamber Choir, under the direction of Miss Amber Thacker, performed at the annual Chamber Christmas Dinner held recently at the Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley. Shown above, from left are: Carri Hunt, Bethany Clontz, Starla Bond, Brittany Boreing, Dalton Hutton, Michael Browning, Chelsea O'Rear, Felicia Chestnut, Jacilyn Bullock and Johnna Ballard.



Sharing a word at the recent Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner, were, from left: Jailer James Miller, Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby and husband, Paul.



Casey Hunt, left and older sister, Carri, get ready for a Violin duet, which they performed at the annual Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner.



Rockcastle Chamber members Glenna and Larry Smith, were present at the Chamber's annual Christmas Party, which was held at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley. The Smiths own and operate the Snack Shack in Mt. Vernon.

Photos by:
Richard
Anderkin

"What Is Written"

We want to continue our study of some of the outstanding attitudes that were manifested in the first church as seen in the book of Acts. In Acts 2:42 we read, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Notice that they were steadfast in the apostles' doctrine. This word steadfast is defined as: to be earnest towards, to persevere, be constantly diligent, to give unremitting care to a thing. These folks desired and were committed to sound doctrine. This is how brethren can dwell together in unity, "And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart." Ac.2:46. As Amos said long ago, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" ch. 3:3. Yes these believers were in unity, for they all had the mind set to follow sound doctrine. But in time, not all would be satisfied with the truth. In Acts 15 some were teaching erroneous things, "Paul and Barnabas had quite a dispute and argument with them" ISV. After the looking at what the Lord had already revealed; truth prevailed with most the brethren, "Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church," vs.22. All problems can work out when folks love the truth!

Providence church of Christ - 758-8524
E-mail: Dan.McKibben@Juno.com

Web Site: www.WhatSaithTheScriptures.com

Time of Services: **Sunday** 10am Bible Study, Worship 10:40 & 6:00pm; **Wed.** 7:00pm. Radio program, Sun.8am, 1460 AM



May His divine spirit warm and watch over you and yours this holiday season.

TO OUR GOOD FRIENDS
Everywhere

All the best to you and yours this holiday season.
We appreciate your business.

A Cut Above

Mt. Vernon • 606-256-5317



Dicie Allen, Terri Woodall and Sherry Barron



From left: Shirley Scalf, owner Ercel Cromer, Sheila Owens and Marty Reynolds.

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160 Williams Street • Mt. Vernon • 256-4363 or 256-3514

Heavenly Hope Books and Gifts

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Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day
Open regular hours New Year's Eve • Closed New Year's Day

CAP Christmas Basket program serves 128 families in Rockcastle

Friday morning, Christmas came early this year, for some 128 families and 22 elderly people in Rockcastle County, who received Christmas baskets through a program sponsored and administered by the

Christian Appalachian Project, (CAP). The Christmas Basket program serves six counties in the Cumberland Valley region of Kentucky, including Rockcastle County.

Friday's Christmas Basket program and distribution took place at the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon, where the church's huge all-purpose room, was filled gifts and volunteers, who were giving CAP and recipients a helping hand.

This year, approximately 2,200 people served in the Cumberland Valley region.

According to a CAP spokesperson, each county takes applications for 100 families with children, and 20-30 elderly persons.

Those applications are taken during the month of August and spots are filled very quickly. CAP uses the USDA guidelines to determine if families qualify for this program.

These "baskets" include gifts for each member of the family as well as a food voucher for a Christmas dinner.

This program is made possible solely through individual sponsors. These sponsors come from all over the United States, and each state is represented. Sponsors are sent letters in July. They are able to choose how many and/or how large a family they will sponsor.

This year, CAP had 80% repeat sponsors. Without these generous sponsors, the Christmas basket program would not

be possible.

The Christian Appalachian Project is an interdenominational non-profit Christian or-

ganization that has had a long-standing presence in Rockcastle County. CAP serves the county

through various programs in Rockcastle, including:
-Adult Learning Center

(Cont. to B7)



Volunteers from the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon including, Delores Morris, left and Carol Pybas, helped get refreshments ready for some of the families who received Christmas Baskets through CAP.



Several volunteers helped CAP with their Christmas Basket Program held at the First Baptist Church on Friday. From left are: Mike O'Brien, Jessica Soule, Bryan Phelps and Kevin Denaria. Phelps, who is the Youth Minister at First Baptist, brought the message in a service before the give-away began.



Volunteers Luke and Karen Dodson hauled out items for Sharon Helton and Pam Kelly at the Christmas Basket program sponsored by CAP. Friday's program took place at the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon. (CAP program photos by: Richard Anderkin)

GREETINGS OF THE SEASON

May you and your loved ones enjoy all the splendor of this very special time of year. It's been a pleasure serving you. From Danny and Gaylen Settles and all the employees at



Front row: manager Denise Parsons. Back row from left: Peggy Nolan, John Griffith, Jason Allen, Amanda Smith and Lucy Cole.




Front row from left: Darlene Burdine, Tracey Shelton and Andrea Reynolds. Back row from left: Michael Thomason and Ryan Owens.

Employees not present for photos: Courtney Parsons, Stephanie McCauley, Janet Patterson, Lisa Thompson, Maria Kersey, Gerald Polk, Jacob Lawrence, Keesha Bussell, Sara Cain and Rebecca Ayers.

KFC will close at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed Christmas Day. KFC will close at 10 p.m. New Year's Eve and will be open New Year's Day.

Merry Christmas

*May peace and joy
come to you
during this holy season*



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RCHS students and sister and brother Hayley and Zachary Davis performed at the second annual combined Christmas Concert at RCHS on December 15th.



RCHS Band members from left: Rachel Hemsley, Tara Baldwin, Samantha Taylor and Hannah Tyler played clarinets at the second annual combined Choir and Band Christmas concert at RCHS.



RCHS Band Director Greg Daugherty conducts *Sounds of the Season* at the second annual combined RCHS Band and Choir Christmas Concert, held last week. Daugherty has been Band Director at RCHS for 14 years.

“Cap Christmas Baskets”

(Cont. from B6)

- Child and Family Development Center
 - Family Life Counseling Center
 - Family Life Abuse Center
 - Healing Rain Recovery Center
 - Rainbow Respite
 - Grateful Threadz Used Clothing Store and eBay store
 - Grateful Breads Food Pantry
 - Family Advocacy and Housing
- Family Advocacy (formerly known as Outreach) began as Father Beiting (founder of CAP) distributed clothing, furniture, food, and other items to families in need or in an emergency situation in the 1950's. This program now helps families with emergency assistance as well as organizing the Christmas Basket and School Readiness distributions.



A capacity crowd of over 300 people attended the second annual combined RCHS Band and Chorus Concert held in the RCHS auditorium on Monday, December 15th. Shown above are some members of the RCHS Choir, front bottom row: Tara Baldwin, Starla Bond, and Andrea Mink. Second row, from left: Robyn Sturgill and Seth Adams and back row, from left: Victoria Howard, Brittany Boreing, Charles Alcorn and E.J. Wynn. The RCHS Chorus is under the direction of Miss Amber Thacker.

The Signal office will be closed Dec. 24th through Jan. 4th



Liz Phelps, who works with CAP, was busy loading boxes full of items for some of the 128 families who were served at Friday's Christmas Basket program.

Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
New Year!

from your friends at



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Closing at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day
Closing at 10 p.m. New Year's Eve and open at 8 a.m. New Year's Day



From left: Stephen Redmond, Mike Clark, Krista Owens, Lillian Ribble, Joey Reeves, Emily Miller, Sara Begley, Dillon Hughes, Stephen Deaton, Lakin Halcomb, Matt Willis, Carol Baker, Chris Settles, Gaylen Settles, Danny Settles and Jack Stephens. Numerous other employees not present included Carrie Asberry, Marsha Harris, Tiffany Smith, Ashley Smith and Vanessa McCoy.

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AVON: Earn money by selling Avon. 1-888-528-7875. 49xntf

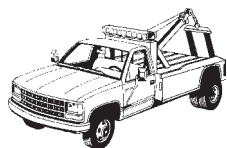
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Overbay's Handyman Service. All home repair and tree cutting. 606-308-9549. 51fn
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Service Commission of Kentucky will hold a hearing on January 13, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices, located at 211 Sower Boulevard in Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of cross-examining witnesses of Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") and intervenors in Case No. 2008-00251, which is an Application of KU for the Adjustment of Base Electric Rates and in Case No. 2007-00565, which is an Application of KU to File a Depreciation Study.

Prior to the Public Hearing on January 13th at the Commission's offices, the Public Service Commission will hold three (3) Public Meetings to provide an opportunity for ratepayers who would be affected by any increases and are not parties to this case to speak directly to the Commission at the following locations on the dates and times noted:

Madisonville, Kentucky
 January 6, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., Central Standard Time, at the Madisonville Community College Health Campus-Auditorium located at 750 North Laffoon Street

Middlesboro, Kentucky
 January 8, 2009, at 5:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, at the Middlesboro Community Center located at 705 North Petersborough Avenue

Lexington, Kentucky
 January 12, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, at the Bryan Station High School-Auditorium located at 201 Eastin Road

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 57 West Main St. • Brodhead
 For appt. call 606-758-0064
17 Years Experience Pet Grooming 20xntf

Notices

Notice is hereby given that Dortha Barnett Kirby, 407 Crutcher Pike, Richmond, Ky. 40475 has been appointed executrix of the estate of Clyde Roland Barnett on the 15th day of December, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Dortha Barnett Kirby or to Hon. John D. Ford, 45 East

Main St., O.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 15, 2009 at 11 a.m. 5x3
Notice is hereby given that Gary D. Kirby, 239 Wildflower Lane, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed guardian of Gary Lee Kirby on the 10th day of December, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Gary D. Kirby on or before June 10, 2009 at 11 a.m. 5x2
Notice is given that Larry B. Smith has filed a final settlement of his accounts as Executor of the estate of Rebecca Smith, deceased. A hearing on said settlement will be held January 19, 2009 at 11 a.m. Any exceptions to said settlement must be filed before said date. 6x1
Notice is hereby given that Jeffrey Sampson, 3598 Burnt Ridge Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed executor of the estate of Wanda Sampson on the 2nd day of December 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Jeffrey

Sampson or to Hon. Frankie C. Blevins, Jr., Blevins Law, 400 Richmond Rd. N., Ste. C, Berea, Ky. 40403 on or before June 3, 2009 at 11 a.m. 4x3
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302-3362. 3xntf
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For Sale: AKC registered Boxer pups. 256-4500. 4x3
For Sale: AKC registered 6 week old Golden Retrievers. Vet checked, first shots. Six male, one female. \$200. 256-9882 or 859-797-7317. 5x2p
For Sale: AKC registered Golden Retrievers. Ready for Christmas. Parents on premises. Wormed and first shots. \$200. 606-256-3637. 5x2p

Attention BRODHEAD WATER CUSTOMERS

Due to the installation of a new water line, Brodhead Water System has called a
BOIL WATER ADVISORY
 until further notice for the following areas:
 Hwy. 1505 beginning at the junction of Hwy. 150 to the end of Hwy. 1505 and all streets or roads that junction with Hwy. 1505

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Pat Winstead M04434
606-256-1038 • 606-308-4825

Performed by the RCMS Music Department

“A Glorious Christmas”

Submitted by A. B. Sharpe
For the second time in three days the auditorium of Rockcastle High School was filled with a standing room only crowd. Thursday evening, December 18th, “A Glorious

Christmas” was presented by the Rockcastle Middle School Music Department. This was the debut performance for the 6th grade Beginning Band. They deftly played the Christmas classics “Jingle Bells”, “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” and “Up On the Housetop”, under the sure direction of Mr. Greg Daugherty. Not only has he expertly guided these new musicians on the basics of individual instruments and musical notation, he has brought them together as a group able to perform in unison. It’s hard to believe that less than 4 months ago most of these budding musicians had never played a note.

The RCMS Chorus, which includes many musicians and is under the spirited leadership of Ms. Cassandra Smith, then took center stage and opened with

the well-known “Gloria Deo”. Next, a choir of angels (Caleb Coffey, Jessica Harris, Shalontha Morgan, and Angel Spurlock) blended their voices in a heavenly “Angels from the Realm of Glory” that was remarkably meshed with the Chorus singing “The First

Noel”. Deanna Alexander and Anna Poynter rendered a divine duet “What Child Is This?” and Angel Spurlock transfixes us with her performance of a “Silent Night” while also accompanying herself on the piano. Rylan Cromer soulfully crooned “Feliz Navidad” evoking fond memories of Trini Lopez for many of us. The Chorus then sang an animated “No School Tomorrow if it Snows” and ended their set with a Chorus led audience sing-along of “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer”, “Silent Night”, “Jingle Bells” and “White Christmas”.

The 7th and 8th Grade Band presented “A Glorious Christmas”, “Santa Claus is Comin’ to Town” and a “Concerto for Sleigh Bells and Band”. The audience really relished their performance and was left wishing for more. They are more accomplished and include several members of the High School Marching and Concert Band. They will be competing as a concert band later this winter against many other area schools. The resounding finale was a combined effort of the 6th, 7th and 8th Grade bands and the Chorus. “We Wish You a Merry Christmas” rang out

loudly.

We now look forward to the New Year. New opportunities abound. Including an opportunity that all can enjoy, eating at Pizza Hut on the first Monday of the New Year, Monday, January 5th. As the kids return to school, after weeks of celebrations, why not order-in or eat-out at Mount Vernon Pizza Hut. Mention the Band and the Band will receive 20% of your order. Tight times and all the budget cuts really impact our local arts programs. They need your support. We thank you for all your support in the past year. God bless you all.



Eighth grader Rylan Cromer.



Angel Spurlock



The Rockcastle County Middle School Chorus



7th and 8th Grade Band

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To all our friends both far and near,
“Merry Christmas”
and
“Happy New Year.”

May Santa deliver all you’ve hoped for,
Like good friends,
good health,
And good times galore!



From left: Tootle, Danny, Rita, Jackie. Not pictured: Doug

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Randy Renner
Shirley L. Cummins
Heather Larson
Linda Proctor
Freda Parsons
Jerry Smith
Lisa Hager
Judy Rowe
Rita Smith
Michelle Ratiff
Tawsha Bryant
Jaime Martin
Andre Anderson
Vicki Miller
Belinda Sparks
Brenda Cameron
Amy Ballard
Jennifer Northern
Jennifer Bullock
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Billy Wakecomb
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Dary Scott
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Edie Murray
Stella Newcomb
Sherril Harness
C. DeJelton II
Jammy Fletcher
Sherry Knight
Shonda Shultz
RAY DENNEY
Mike Wren

Mount Vernon Signal

Third Section

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Comprehensive Care Center holds Community Day

Mt. Vernon Comprehensive Care Center held its annual Community Day on December 12, 2008.

The event was well attended though the weather was icy and cold. Mt. Vernon Comp Care Center has provided mental health, substance abuse and mental retardation services since 1967. The purpose of Community Day is to honor, recognize and show appreciation to those in the community who demonstrate excellence in providing services to children, youth, families, the Rockcastle community, the city, county, state and country.

Several individuals and one regional group were honored this year at the local mental health center. Several physicians were honored for providing excellent patient care and for "coming back home" to provide this care in Rockcastle County where they grew up.

Dr. Kimberly Cornelius was present to accept her award for "Compassionate Caring Services Provided to Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Clients and Families."

Dr. Karen Saylor, Dr. David Bullock, Dr. Tony Arvin and Dr. Callie Mullins Shaffer were also honored for the excellent compassionate services they provide to children, adults and families in Rockcastle County.

Both Dr. Vasilli Arkadiev and Dr. Enedino Corales, psychiatrists at the Mt. Vernon Comp Care were honored for their empathy and caring as well as for their knowledge and expertise in the field of psychiatry, especially with psychiatric medications.

Local physicians, including Dr. George Griffith, were honored and thanked for collaboration with the local mental health center staff, especially in regard to medications, so that optimum treatment can be provided to clients per Carolyn Reppert Morris, Team Manager. Dr. Cornelius also spoke regarding the importance of this.

Other community leaders honored were Mayor Clarice Kirby for her support and outstanding contributions to CRCCC in helping to erase the stigma of mental illness. NAMI

Cumberland River was recognized for its outstanding contributions in the same effort in the eight county NAMI Cumberland River, located in Mt. Vernon.

Another very special award was presented to Mr. James "Jim" Cox, retired teacher, for the many contributions he made to Rockcastle County's youth.

An old high school "Flambeau" (yearbook) was passed around showing Mr. Cox teaching his biology, math, general science classes. He also made a difference in the lives of those he coached in football and was instrumental in Comp Care's school-based provision of mental health and substance abuse services. Mr. Cox recognized the needs of students and their families throughout his teaching and administrative career.

Mrs. Jill Stevens Ponder was also recognized for "making a difference" in the lives of Rockcastle County students and their families.

Mrs. Ponder began her mental health career at the Mt.

Vernon Comprehensive Care Center and was instrumental in helping the center begin its first school-based counseling services in the region.

Mrs. Ponder identified the needs of students and their

families quickly and was able to access mental health, substance and other services needed in a timely and compassionate way.

Lawrence Bullock, retired art teacher, custom sign de-

signer and artist was also honored at the event for "making a difference" in the lives of Rockcastle's students and for the professional signage he cre-

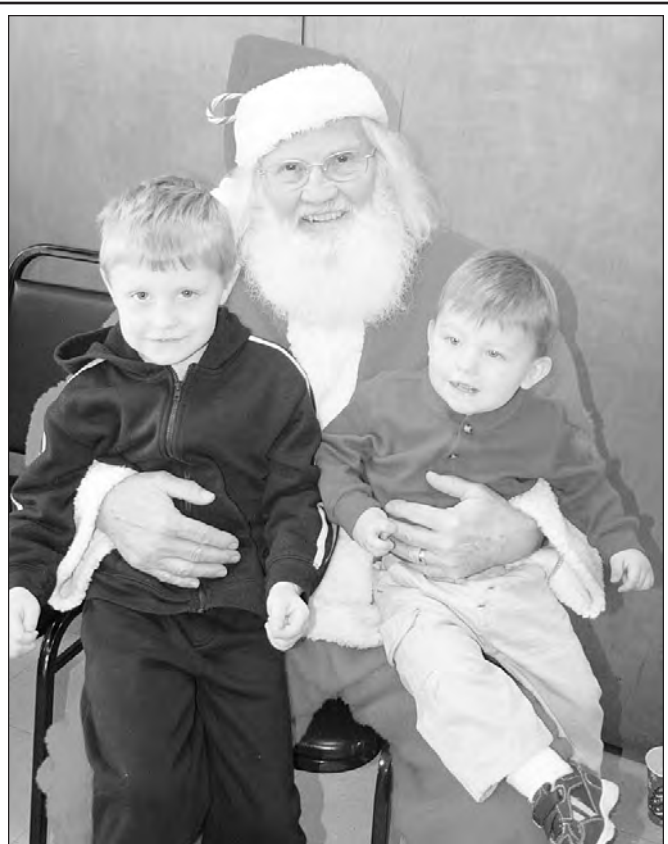
(Cont. to C2)



Some of those in attendance at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th were from left: Gary Reppert, Heather Taylor, Shirley Cummins and Sherry Vaughn.



Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby, center, was honored for her support, understanding and contributions in erasing the stigma of mental illness, at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th. Mayor Kirby also accepted the award for Mt. Vernon City Police Asst. Chief Eddie Delaney for Compassionate Caring Services provided to Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center and their families. As Assistant Chief, Eddie Delaney served and protected the clients and staff at the Mt. Vernon Comp Care Center.



Caleb Cameron, left and brother Carson, visited with Santa, aka, John Holbrook, during the annual Community Day at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center in Mt. Vernon on December 12th.



June Stevens, left, and Eddie Fields, were two of the many people who attended the annual Community Day on December 12th at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center in Mt. Vernon.



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From left: Skyler Hayes, accepted Dr. Tony Arvin's Award, Brandy Bullock accepted Awards for Compassionate Care provided by Dr. Karen Saylor, Dr. David Bullock and Dr. Kevin Rowe. Dr. Kimberly Cornelius accepted her award and Dr. Callie Shafer's Award for "Compassionate Caring Services Provided to Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Cener Clients and Families". Danny Jones, Executive Director is shown with Dr. Kevin Rowe's Award. The awards were presented at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th.



Rockcastle Team Manager, Dr. Carolyn Reppert Morris, left, Danny Jones Executive Director, center and Board Chairman Roland D. Mullins are shown accepting awards for Dr. Corales, Pyschiatrist who has served the Mt. Vernon Comp Care Center since 1978 and Dr. Arkadiou, Psychiatrist, who has served clients at the Center since 2005, at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon.

Community Day

(Cont. from C1)

ated for both NAMI Cumberland River and the local office.

Assistant Mt. Vernon Chief of Police Eddie Delaney was recognized for the safety, security and protection he has provided for both clients and staff at the local mental health center. He has rendered these services with compassion and caring throughout his career with the Mt. Vernon Police Department.

Both Sheriff Mike Peters and

Mayor Clarice Kirby spoke of Delaney's devotion and dedication to protecting and serving the city of Mt. Vernon.

Morris also spoke highly of Delaney's commitment to keeping the mental health center, clients and staff safe. Executive Director Danny also added his gratitude to Sheriff Peters, Chief Terry Jackson and Delaney for their service to Comp Care.

Should mental health, substance abuse or mental retardation services be needed, the Mt. Vernon Comp Care Center is dedicated, committed and honored to serve.

Please call 606-256-2129 for more information.



Jill Stevens Ponder, center, accepted an award for "Making a Difference in the Lives of Rockcastle Students and their Families," at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day. Ponder is shown with CRCCC Team Manager Dr. Carolyn Reppert Morris, left and Executive Director Danny Jones. Mrs. Ponder was the Family Resource Director who did Needs Assessments Identifying Rockcastle's Substance Abuse and Mental Health needs.



Rockcastle County Sheriff Mike Peters is shown accepting and Award for "Compassionate Caring Services Provided to the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Families and Clients" from CRCCC Board chairman Roland D. Mullins, at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th. Sheriff Peters and his deputies transport mentally ill patients to State Psychiatric Hospitals for treatment from the local mental health center.

Community Day photos by: Richard Anderkin



Wayne Bullock, right, Nami President (National Alliance For Mental Illness) Cumberland River is shown accepting NAMI's Award for outstanding contributions the NAMI Chapter has made to the Mt. Vernon Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center, at the Care Center's Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th.



Artist Lawrence Bullock, a retired Art teacher and a Custom Sign Designer, is shown above accepting his award for "Making a Difference in the Lives of Students in Rockcastle County." Mr. Bullock is shown with CRCCC Executive Director Danny Jones, center and Board Chairman Roland d. Mullins, who is a former Executive Director of CRCCC.



Jim Cox, right, is shown accepting his award from CRCCC Board Chair Roland D. Mullins, for "Making A Difference In the Lives of Rockcastle County's Youth", during the annual Community Day at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center in Mt. Vernon. Mr. Cox was instrumental also in recognizing the need for Mental Health and Substance Abuse services provided within county schools.



Carolyn Reppert Morris, left, Team Manager at CRCCC is shown with Mt. Vernon City Police Chief Terry Jackson, center, and CRCCC Executive Director Danny Jones. Jackson received an award for providing protection and support to the clients and staff at the local Mental Health Center, at the annual Community Day.



Have a Happy and Healthy Holiday!

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Front row from left: Teresa Shafer, Trish Harmon and Vernie Conner. Back row from left: pharmacist Tim Young, Scott Barnes, Alma Hoggard, pharmacist Tracy King and Janet Day. Not present: Shirley Cromer, Sandra Durham and Jamie Jones.

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First Graders' Christmas Wish Lists

The following Letters to Santa were written by students at Mt. Vernon Elementary School. First grade teachers at Mt. Vernon are: Jerrilyn Smith, Janet Carter, Jamie Bryant, Kathy Price, Kaci Brown and Kristy Isaacs.

Dear Santa,
I hope your reindeer feel good. I am not feeling so good today. I hope you buy me a light saber from Star Wars. I like the red one and I would like another blue one.

Love, Jason Wickland
Dear Santa,
I want a Power Ranger and Transformer for Christmas. I hope you are doing good.

Love, Cager Doan
Dear Santa,
How are you? I want a Hannah Montana wig, a Hannah Montana shirt, pants, and boots, and a microphone, and sunglasses. I will leave you some cookies on the table.

Love, Allison Newcomb
Dear Santa,
I would like you to come through the door because I do not have a chimney. There are cookies and milk waiting for you in the living room. Please put my presents under the tree. I want some army men and hot wheels.

Thanks, Sam Philbeck
Hello Santa,
I want some tools for Christmas. I would like some screwdriver, wrenches, a hammer, some nails, some wood, and a measuring tape. I don't have a fireplace, so please come through my front door.

Thanks, Andrew Hurt
Dear Santa,
I want a horse for Christmas. It is at Walmart. I want a doll for Christmas, too. I want a doll with black hair. Her skin is brown. Thank you for the presents.

Love, Katherine Coffey
Dear Santa,
I want a necklace for Christmas. I want it to look like a flower. I want a ring to go with it. I would like a new little teddy bear, too. I want a baby doll with a bowl and a spoon and a fork.

Love, Lebrana Sparks
Dear Santa,
I want a reindeer's bell for Christmas. I want an X-Box 360 for Christmas. I want to

come to the North Pole to see you. I would play with you.

Your friend, Blayne Kelley
Dear Santa,
I want a Nintendo DS, an X-Box 360, and remote control car. I want some race cars. I want a puppy if my dad lets me have one. I want a collection of rocks. I love you, Santa.

Love, Cameron Bullock
Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want an easy bake oven to make cupcakes with, or brat magic hair color. I know you are always busy making toys but I was wondering how long does it take's to make all those toys? I have been really good all year and I hope bring me what I want for Christmas. I hope you have a good Christmas!

Love, Aden Amburgey
Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer doing? I hope you have a happy Christmas. If you will can you write me a letter back?

Love, Leann Tankersley
Dear Santa,
What I would like for Christmas is a remote control car that can go on land and water. How are the reindeer doing? How is Rudolph doing? There are milk and cookies waiting for you in the living room.

Love, Logan Bullock
Dear Santa,
I hope you have a good Christmas. I hope it will snow here for Christmas. This year I would like to have a new outfit.

Love, Nora Pulliam
Hello Santa,
I want an easy bake oven that makes cupcakes for Christmas this year or new pair of shoes. I have been really good all year.

Love, Shakeitha Kates
Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas the characters from the movie Batman like Batman, the Joker, the Penguin, and Clay Face. I would also like a Star Wars helmet and a Clone Trooper and a Laser gun and Clone Trooper Lagos and an X Box 360.

Love, Jonathan Howard
Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas are the cars off of the movie Cars. I have been really good

this year; I hope you have a good Christmas. I will put out Christmas cookies for you on Christmas.

Love, Walker Lay
Dear Santa,
I want a new house for Christmas, I also want you to come in through the front door and I would like to have a new video game. I hope that Jesus has a good birthday and Santa I hope that you have a good Christmas.

Love, CJ Cameron
Dear Santa,
How are the reindeers? I hope they are doing fine. I am not sure what I want for Christmas just yet, but I'll let you know soon. Have a happy Christmas.

Love, Holly Miller
Dear Santa,
You are the best Santa Clause ever! This year for Christmas I want a X Box 360 and C3PO. I really want a lot of things for Christmas, but I think you know what they are.

Love, Eli Price
Dear Santa,
I want to have a bicycle, a Harley Davidson motorcycle and a police car for Christmas this year. Merry Christmas! I hope you have a good one.

Love, Justin Denney
Dear Santa,
I want a red and blue Darth Vader Light Saber. Santa you can unlock the door and come in, there will be cookies waiting for you. How long does it take the elves to make all those toys?

Love, Gabe Robinson
Dear Santa,
I would like to have the High School Musical video for Christmas.

Love, Nicole
Dear Santa,
I wish I had a bb gun for Christmas. I wish I had a present under the tree. I wish I had been good.

Love, Daniel
Dear Santa,
I want WE for Christmas. I've been a good boy. I want a remote control car, a laptop and a cell phone.

Love, Zachary
Dear Santa,
I want a BB gun for Christmas. Thank you for my present.

Love, Tristan
Dear Santa,
I would like a new Thomas movie, a toy helicopter, and a Hannah Montana poster. Thank you for the toys last year.

Love, Tristian
Dear Santa,
I want a new barbie doll and a teddy bear, too. Thank you for my toys.

Love, Katie
Dear Santa,
I have been good. I love you, Santa. I make my bed. My mom wants a baby. Thank you for my toys.

Love, Abby
Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want the game Star Wars Battlefront, the game Civil War, a shoot gun, and Secret Service. I have been good! Please come to my house. There will be Christmas cookies and milk.

Love, Braden

Dear Santa,
I want a baby doll. I have been good. Thank you.

Love, Selena
Dear Santa,
I want a Hulk toy and an Iron Man toy for Christmas. I like you. Come to my house and you will get cookies.

Love, Devon
Dear Santa,
I have been good. Come to my house. I will leave you some cookies. I want a Baby Alive. Thank you.

Love, Jeriann
Dear Santa,
I love you. I have been good. I help my family. I want boots. I hope you bring me boots. Thank you.

Love, Isaac
Dear Santa,
I would like a BB gun, a cowboy hat, and a transformer. I will leave cookies and mild

for you.
Love, Orion

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a Baby Alive. I would like a Princess Kitchen set. Thank you for the toys last year. I will leave you cookies. I will leave you some milk too.

Love, Rosemary
Dear Santa,
I have been good. I love Santa. I would like a real camera. I would like a real phone. I would like new shoes. I will leave you cookies and milk.

Love, Brittney
Dear Santa,
I have been good. I obey my parents. I have perfect attendance. I want a airhogs helicopter.

Your friend, Wesley

(Cont. to C4)

Enjoy the Beauty of the Season

May you revel in the splendor of the season and marvel at the miracle of all living things large and small.

With appreciation and warm holiday wishes from all of us.



Aletha and Justin Bryant

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Merry Christmas

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Front row from left: Betty Sue Bullen and William K. Bullen. Back row from left: Stacie Thacker, Connie Woods, Shelley Mullins, Marlene Lawson, Curtiss Willis, Christa Taylor and Susan Lovell.

Farm Bureau will be closing at Noon December 24th and be closed December 25th and 26th and January 1st.

Season's Greetings

To wish you the gift of faith, the blessing of hope, and the peace of His love at Christmas and always.



From left: Rick Reynolds, Marvin Owens, Jack Bussell, Judy Owens, Bob Beatty and Nelson Graves.

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Dear Santa,
I want tap shoes, I want an iPod. I have been good.
Love, Isaiah

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl. I want some shoes. My brother is being good. I got a little dog. A am going to leave you cookies and milk.
Love, Michelle

Dear Santa,
I like you. I would like a video game for Christmas. I would like drums and guitar for Christmas. I would like a mouse for Christmas.
Love, Hunter

Dear Santa,
I would like a Power Ranger helmet, some video games and I would like some Leggo's too. I have been a good boy.
Love, Oririn

Dear Santa,
I would like a Barbie Doll and clothes for Christmas. I have been a good girl this year.
Love, Lauren

Dear Santa,
I have been a super good boy this year. Please bring me a Ben 10 watch and costume. Tell Rudolph I said Hi and Mrs. Santa and bring my brothers a gift and my sisters. Thank you Santa and Mrs. Claus.
Charles

Dear Santa,
I have been a very nice girl this year. Please bring me a High School Musical Barbie house. Could you bring my brother a game too? Thank you Santa for my gift. Tell Rudolph I said a Hello.
Your friend, Ella

Dear Santa,
I have been a super good boy this year. Please bring me a Hot Wheels set. Could you bring my cousin a Pokemon too? Thank you Santa for my presents. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Brandon

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. Please bring me some Hannah Montana flip flops. Thank you Santa for my presents. Tell Donner I said Hello.
Your friend, Adrianna

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good girl this year. Please bring me a new guitar! Could you bring my brother a ball? Thank you Santa for my presents. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Lakisha

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me some roller skates. Could you bring my Sissy a Barbie doll? Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Hannah

Dear Santa,
I have been kind of naughty this year. Please bring a a Batman toy. Could you bring my dog a bone? Thank you Santa, for my clothes. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Jacob

Dear Santa,
I have been super good this year. I want a 30-0-6 this year. Could you bring my Dad a new 12 gauge shotgun because he wants to shoot rabbits? Tell Donner I said Hello.
Lane

Dear Santa,
I have been just a little bit naughty this year. Please me a \$1,000,000. Could you bring my Mom a \$1,000,000 too? Thank you Santa for my present. Tell Rudolph I said Hi.
Felicity

Dear Santa,
I have been a super good boy this year. Please bring me a bow and arrow to kill a deer. Could you bring my sisters some presents? Thank you Santa for my present. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Dustin

Dear Santa,
I have been a super good boy this year. Please me \$1,000,000. Could you bring my Mom and Dad something cool? Tell the elves I said Hello.
Your friend, Alex

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me a High School Musical Barbie House. Could you bring my Mon a new popcorn maker? Thanks for my presents.
Love, Jaylon

Dear Santa,
I have been just a little naught this year. Please bring me some new roller skates. Could you bring my mom something too? Thank you Santa for my present. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Madison

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I want a Star Wars helmet and blaster. Please bring my

mom a new coat. Thank you for bringing those. Tell Rudolph I said Hi.
Love, Brexton

Dear Santa,
I have been good at home but a little naughty a school. Please bring me a toy bazooka. Could you bring my dad a real army gun? I like the Army Hummer you gave me last year. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Blaine

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy this year. Please bring my teacher a pink sweater. Thank you Santa for giving me a real computer. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Zachary

Dear Santa,
I have been a nice boy all year. Please bring me a fake pistol 99. Could you bring my brothers one too? Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Ben

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring me a toy T-Rex that can walk, roar and scare dogs. Could you bring my Mom a fur coat?
Jaden

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me a dog. Could you bring my sister a sweater this year? I like you Santa.
Your friend, Alexis

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I want a Star Wars helmet and blaster. Please bring my mom a new coat. Thank you for bringing those. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Owen

Dear Santa,
How are you and the deer? Are you coming to my home? I would want an E-Pet-a cat. I want to ge my ears pierced. I want to get some doggie earrings.
Love, Callie

Dear Santa,
I would like a computer, Hannah Montana Doll, camera, and shoes. I really hope I get some of these toys for Christmas.
Love, Gracelyn

Dear Santa,
I want an orange car for Christmas. The car I want is a Camaro and this sign on the front "Z28". If I got this car I would play with it outside. I have been a good boy. Chocolate chip cookies is what I would leave you if you brought me this car. Please bring me this car.
Sincerely, Will

Dear Santa,
I want a Honda Dirt Bike and a four wheeler by Suzuki. I also would like the "Need for Speed Undercover" video game. I have been a good boy. I help my dad build a fire in the fireplace. I will leave you some chocolate chip cookies, milk, and a card under the tree. I would even like the weld on headlights for my go cart.
Love, Drew

Dear Santa,
I want a "Baby Learns to Potty" present. I have been good this year and I've been looking forward to making you cookies.
Love, Bailee

Dear Santa,
This is Kylee, I'm doing fine. Here are some things that I want for Christmas. A boy Baby Alive, and Wii games. I would like Bingo DS games, white leggings, a new TV with dish, and a lava lamp.
Love, Kylee

Dear Santa, (aka Aunt Melissa),
I would like a BB gun for Christmas. I also want a robot and protective glasses. Also a sled, ice skated, roller skates, deer standy, tent, deer feeder, bunny call, deer call, squirrel call, a Rifle, Musket, and a bear call.
Love, Reece

Dear Santa,
Have you been doing good? How are you elves? Is Rudolph okay? For Christmas, I want a remote control truck.
Love, Trent

Dear Santa,
Can you please get me a Barbie, a computer, and a black basketball? Have a nice Christmas.
Love, Amy

Dear Santa,
How are the elves doing? I have been good this year. I would like some Transformers, Play-Doh, and a new game for my Gameboy. I will be leaving you some peanut butter cookies and milk.
Love, Kyle

Dear Santa, Claus,
One thing I want for Christmas is a Furreal Dog named Big Cat. Another thing I want is a Furreal dinosaur named Rex. I will leave you a glass of milk and cookies. I want these toys because they look fun. But I want Biscuit the most. Will you please come to my how and taste my cookies. I hope they're tasty.
Love, Halee

Dear Santa,
I'm here to tell you what I want for Christmas. The Smash Wii Game is what I would really like for Christmas. The second thing I would like is the Narnia Prince Caspian Movis. The third thing is a Guitar Hero. These are the things I want for Christmas.
Love, Aidan

Dear Santa,
A Hannah Montana and High School Musical game, Hannah Montana Mat, and Z Box 360, Hannah Montana costume, and a Hannah Montana bike. These are some of the things I want for Christmas.
Love, Santina

Dear Santa, (aka Mom and Dad),
I want a play kitchen because I can play plus a pistol gun. One more thing I want is another Batman game for my Game Boy.
Love, Noah

Dear Mom and Dad,
I would like a Hannah Montana skaeboard bike, Hannah Montana lip gloss, dolls, and shirts. I would also like a Hannah Montana poster, guitar, notebook and a High School Musical umbrella. I will leave cookies and mittens for Santa.
Love, Ashley

Dear Santa,
I want a hunting game and a fishing game. I want an orange hat, camouflage jacket and pants. I want a blue truck. I have been good. I share my toys with my sister.
Love, Camden

Dear Santa,
I want a cat for Christmas. I also want a horse with a trail and a bridle so I can ride. I want

brown cowboy boots and another thing I would like to have is a puzzle and a saddle to go with my horse. I hope you could bring me this stuff. Merry Christmas!
Love, Logan

Dear Santa,
The number one thing I would want for Christmas is a Moped. I think I will leave milk and cookies for you. I have been good this year.
Love, Pate

Dear Santa,
Can you give me a new bike please and a Pokemon Diamond and Pearl video game. I have been good this year. I will leave milk and chocolate chip cookies when it is Christmas.
Love, William

Dear Santa,
Will you bring me a Christmas Bratz for Christmas? I have been good. I wish that my dad will be home for Christmas.
Your friend, Allie

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have been

good? I would like a Spiderman game for Christmas.
Your friend, Draven

Dear Santa,
Will you get me some toys? I have been good. I would like a X-Box 360 for Christmas.
Your friend, Austin


Dear Santa,
I have been good. How are you? I would like a skateboard for Christmas. I would also like Guitar Hero.
Your friend, Bailey

Dear Santa,
I have been naughty at school. I would like a skateboard for Christmas.
Your friend, Logan S.


Dear Santa,
How are the elves? I have been good. I would like a Nintendo DS and 2 baby kittens for Christmas.
Your friend, Johnna

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have been bad. I would like Heeley's, X-
(Cont. to C5)

**Your Friendship...
Makes It All Worthwhile!**



Judge Katie Wood & Tyler
Merry Christmas & Heartfelt Wishes
for a wonderful New Year.



and many thanks to our good friends, everywhere!
Happy Holidays from everyone at
Mt. Vernon Drug
Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-3447

From left: Amanda Mastin, Latasha Deborde, Melissa Slone, Andrew Nelson, owner/pharmacist Kendall Kilbourne, Charlotte Hansel, Amanda Wright and Lisa Thacker. Not present: Whitney Sizemore and Leslie Philbeck.

Open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. • Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Open 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Christmas Eve and closed Christmas Day.

Box 360, and Nintendo DS for Christmas. I would also like snow and a Spiderman game. I am good at being naughty to my brother.

Your friend, Bryce
Dear Santa,
 I would like a X-Box 360.
 Your friend, Logan B.

Dear Santa,
 How are the reindeer? I have been good. I would like a Nintendo DS for Christmas.
 Your friend, Ashlyn

Dear Santa,
 How are you and the elves? I have been good. I would like a Puppy in the Pocket for Christmas. How are the reindeer?
 Your friend, Arionna

Dear Santa,
 How are you and the elves? I would like without training wheels for Christmas.
 Your friend, William

Dear Santa,
 How are you? I have been good. I would like Heeleys for Christmas.
 Your friend, Beth

Dear Santa,
 How are the reindeer? I have been good and would like 2 baby cats for Christmas.
 Your friend, Hannah

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I want a regular, little puppy. I promise I will take care of it. I would also like Guitar Hero. I think it would be fun to play. My mom or Adam will let you in my house because I don't have a fire place. My mom is going to bake some cookies for you. I will leave them on the table. I hope you like them.
 Love, Gabriel

Dear Santa,
 I would like a toy castle for Christmas. I would also like some dolls that fit in the castle to play with. I will leave you a note and some food on the table
 Love, Patience

Dear Santa,
 I really like Barbie doll things. For Christmas I want a Barbie Doll, a Barbie Doll House, and a Barbie car. I love you a Santa and can't wait until you come to see me.
 Love, Destiny

Dear Santa,
 I hope you have had a good year. I have! For Christmas I would like a Bratz doll. I like all of them so any one would be fine. I also want a little Christmas tree of my own to decorate. I would love to put it in my room.
 Love, Eva

Dear Santa,
 I hope you have had a good year. I want three things for Christmas. The first I want is a D-Rex. The second thing I want is the new Ranger Pokemon game. The third thing I want is a bacugon toy. I also

hope that my family had the best Christmas ever.

Love, Morgan
Dear Santa,
 How are you doing? I am fine. For Christmas want a toy dog that comes with a bone. The dog I want is brown and white. I also want a pink I-Pod. I love you!
 Love, Katelyn

Dear Santa,
 I want a red and blue dirt bike for Christmas. I will ride it in the parking lot by my house. I would also like a PlayStation 2 that I don't have to share with my brother and sister.
 Love, Danny

Dear Santa,
 I really like Wall-E. Christmas I would like a Wall-E video game for my PlayStation 2. I also would like Rock Band for my PlayStation also. I don't have a chimney, so you will have to use the front door,
 Love, Caimen

Dear Santa,
 I would like a stuffed animal reindeer for Christmas. I also like Barbie Dolls. I really would like one. I will make you some cookies and leave you some milk on the table.
 Love, Jasmine

Dear Santa,
 I would like a lot of wrestlers for Christmas. I don't have a Stone Cold wrestler or a Jeff Harding one. I would love to play with these with these with my little brother. I will leave you some gingerbread man cookies.
 Love, Kaden

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I would like a Wall-E toy that I can control. I would also like a Barbie doll to play with. Be careful when you fly around. You are so delightful.
 Love, Taylee

Dear Santa,
 I hope you have a good day today. For Christmas I would like an X-Box 360. I really would love to play it with my dad. It would be so much fun!
 Love, Acton

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I hope you bring me a bakugan. I would like the white on with a purple oval on its head. I also want a book about Wall-E. I'm getting at reading!
 Love, Isaac

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I want some men that are on Smack Down. These men fight with each other. It will be fun.
 Love, Dalton

Dear Santa,
 I want an airhawk toy for Christmas. It turns into a hawk that flies. It also come with a movie. I would also like a bulldozer to play with. I had to

through my other one away. Be careful when flying.

Love, Daniel
Dear Santa,
 I want a bakugan arena and a new bike for Christmas. I would like a red bike that does not have training wheels. I want my bike to have a basket and horn on the front. I hope you and the reindeers are doing well!
 Love, Paul

Dear Santa,
 I hope all the reindeers are doing fine. For Christmas please bring me a bacugon starter kit. I love bakugan! I also love transformers. My favorite is all the autobots, which are the good guys. The last thing I want is a BenTen watch. I want one really bad!
 Love, Travis

Dear Santa,
 I would love to have a swing set at my house. My sister broke my old one. I also would like to have a new dog. I would name it cookie. I will leave you cookies and milk on the kitchen table.
 Love, Emily

Dear Santa,
 I love Hannah Montana. I would like a doll of her. I also want a swimming pool that I can swim in with brother and my sister. Tell Rudolph that I said hi!
 Love, Kiara

Dear Santa,
 I hope your reindeers are doing fine. I really want a new beagle hound for Christmas. My dad and I will hunt rabbits with it. I probably will it Shy. I will leave you some cookies to eat.
 Love, Jeremiah

Dear Santa,
 Hi! I want a Barbie doll for Christmas. I will be glad to see you and the reindeers. I will leave you some chocolate cookies.
 Love, Makayla

The following Letters to Santa from first graders at Roundstone Elementary School. First grade teachers at Roundstone are: Lisa Noe, Michelle Atkin and Beverly Owens.
Dear Santa,

You know I am six years old Mrs. Noe is my teacher in first grade. My name is Riley. I live on Timber Lane Court. This Christmas I would like to get purple Moon Sahd. I think I should get this gift because I clean my room. I listen to my teacher at school too. I am a good friend. I really hope I get the moon sahd.
 Love, Riley

Dear Santa,
 I'm Olivia Erwin. I am six years old. I go to Roundstone School. I am in first grade. I would really like to have a

Hannah Montana Barbie doll for Christmas. I think I should get this gift because I have been good. I learn at school. I help my mom put the clothes in the washer. Tell all the reindeers and elves hi.
 Thank you, Olivia Erwin

Dear Santa,
 I am Hunter Coffey. I live in Mt. Vernon, Kentucky. I am 7 years old. I go to Roundstone School. I'm writing to let you know what I want for Christmas. I would like to have a Play Station. I think I should get this gift because I help my Dad mow the yard. I also listen to my Teacher. Be careful on the Sleigh.
 Love, Hunter Coffey

Dear Santa,
 I'm Lucas Peavie. I live in Wildie Kentucky. I am 6 years old. I go to Roundstone School. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. I would really like to have a Pokeman Ranger game on DS. I think I should get this gift because I feed the fish every 3 days. I also help my sis read. Thank for reading my letter.
 Love, Lucas Peavie

Dear Santa Claus,
 This is Jordan Eaton, I go to Roundstone School and I am six years old. I am in Mrs. Noe's Class, and I live on Lambert Road. I just wanted to tell you what I want for Christmas. I would like to have a Nintendo DS please send a pink one. I believe I should get this present because I pay attention to my teacher at school. I help my brother whenever he hurts himself. I am a good friend. Make sure you're careful on the sleigh.
 Love, Jordan

Dear Santa Claus,
 I am Carly Cromer. I am 6 year old. I live in Kentucky. I go to Roundstone School. I am in Mrs. Noe's classroom. I'm writing to let you know I want for this Christmas. I want a littlest pet shop Wii game. I believe I should get this present because I try my best in school. I clean my dog's cage too. Tell the reindeers I said thank you for pulling the sled.
 Love, Carly

Dear Santa,
 This is Me, Cody. I'm six years old. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. I live in Mt. Vernon. This Christmas I would like to get a whole football suit. I want a red one. I want the number to go on it. I think I should get this present because I help my mom with the laundry and I put my toys in the toy box. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
 Love, Cody

Dear Santa,
 I am McKenzie Himes. I am 6 years old. I go to Roundstone

School. I would really like to have a brown and white puppy. I want a coon puppy. I have been good all year so, I think I should get this gift because I help take care of my niece. I help my Mom clean dishes. Tell Mrs. Clause I said to have a good Christmas.
 Love,
 McKenzi

Dear Santa,
 This is Ravyn Bullens. I live on Lambert Road. I'm in Mrs. Noe's class. I am six. I live in Kentucky. I'm writing to let you know what I want. I want a blue computer. I believe I should get this present because I have help my nannie do the dishes. I also help my sister when she gets hurt. Tell Rudolph I said Hello. Have a happy Christmas.
 Love,
 Ravyn Bullens

Dear Santa,
 I am Sarah Powell. I live on Flat Gap Road. I am 6 did you know that I go to Roundstone School? I would really like to have a sugar glider for Christmas. I want a black and white one. I have been good so please send this gift. I help my bubba clean his room. I listen to Mrs. Noe at school. Tell Rudolph I said hi.
 Your friend, Sarah

Dear Santa Claus,
 I am Coleson. I'm 6. I live in Fairview. My last name is Stevens. I go to Roundstone School. I want a black circle steel cage for toy wrestlers. I have been good all year. I help my Mom clean the house. I help my Papaw clean the farm. Tell all the reindeers I said hi to.
 Thank you, Coleson

Dear Santa Claus,
 My name is Dylan Bullen. I am six years old. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. My school is Roundstone. I just wanted to tell you what I want, I want a black guitar. I think I should get this gift because I change my sister's diaper and baby sit. I always tell the truth to my Mom and Dad. Tell the elves Thank you for making all the toys. Merry Christmas.
 Love, Dylan Bullen

Dear Santa,
 This is Emily Grace Ponder. I am 6 years old. My teacher's name is Mrs. Noe! And I live in Brodhead on Big Sink Road. I would really like to have a little laptop like one of the 15 inch. I think I should get this gift because I clean my frog's cage. I also help clean the living room. And that's why I think I should get the black laptop. I can hardly wait until Christmas.
 Love, Emily Grace Ponder

Dear Santa,
 My name is McKinze Fryer. I am in first grade. I am six years old. But I am about to be seven. I want you to know what I want for Christmas. I want a Jungle in my Pocket. It is a new toy. I want to play with pandas. You should bring me this because I listen to my Mommy and Mana. I will leave cookies and milk for you.
 Love,
 McKinze Fryer

Dear Santa Claus,
 This is my name Ira David Hager. I go to Roundstone School. I am in Mrs. Noe's class rooms. I am six and a half years old. I would really like to have an I-Pod I want it to be sparkly blue. I believe I should get this present because I do my chores. I sometimes help my Papaw put up the horses. I should get this gift. I can't wait until you come for Christmas.
 Love, Ira Hager

Dear Santa Claus,
 I'm Devyn Carl Seaberg. I am 6 years old. I live in Mt. Vernon. I also live on Hammonds Fork Road. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. This Christmas, I would like to get a remote control T-Rex. It is green and it has a black collar with silver spikes. I think I should get this gift because I help change my brother's diaper! I am a good friend at school, and I listen to Mrs. Noe. Tell Rudolph I said Hello, and tell him I said thank you for his bell.
 Your friend, Devyn Seaberg

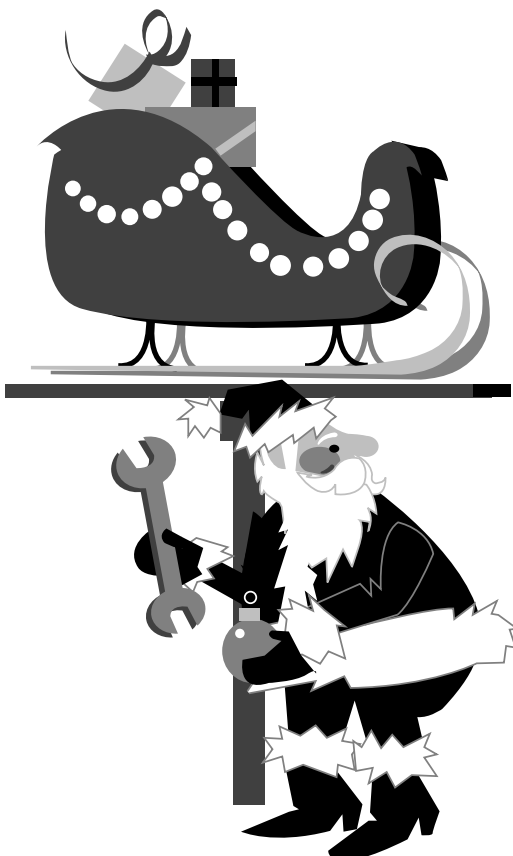
Dear Santa,
 It is me. I am seven years old. My last name is Isaacs. I live in Kentucky. Im writing to let you know what I want. I want a little Peek-a- Boo. I think I should get this gift because I did something that my Mommy told me to do. I put my toys in my room when my Mom tells me to. Tell Rudolph I said Hello this year.
 Love, Tatum

Dear Santa,
 I am Jordan Davidson. I live on Burnt Ridge Road in Kentucky. I go to Roundstone School in Rockcastle County. I would like for you to bring me so me u-gi-o cards. I collect them. I like to look at them. You should bring me these cards because I love them. I have been good. I help Mom clean the dishes. Say hi to Rudolph for me.
 Love, Jordan Davidson

Dear Santa Claus,
 I am Robert Austin Tillery. I live in Mt. Vernon. I am 6 years old. I live on Sweet Water Road. I am in first grade. I want a Nintendo DS for Christmas, I would like a blue one. I

(Cont. to C6)

CHRISTMAS HOPE IT'S UPLIFTING



We know it gives us a lift to serve you.

Many thanks for your loyal support.

Town & Country Chevron

Marvin Mink, Owner

256-9634

L.C. Mink • David Mink
 Garry Prewitt • Danny Mink
 Glenn Parker • Jason Hansel
 Garry Hansel



In the Spirit of the Season...

we'd like to join you and your family in giving thanks to our Lord for His love and guidance, just as we thank you for your trust and support this past year.

Coffey & Ford, PSC Attorneys At Law

Willis Coffey and John D. Ford



From left: Tracy Mink, Willis Coffey, John Ford and Leah Lucas.

Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day

think I should get this gift because I do help my Mamaw clean the living room. I don't back talk. Tell the elves I said Hello.

Your friend, Austin Tillery
Dear Santa Claus,

I am Dylan Chandler. I live on Miller Lane Road. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. I go to Roundstone School. This Christmas I would like to get a Wii. I want one that is white. I have been good all year. I think I should get this present. I clean the house. I play with my little sister too. I am nice. Tell all the reindeers I said hi.

Love, Dylan Chandler
Dear Santa Claus,

This is Matthew Hunter Sizemore. You know the one that is 6 years old. I go to Roundstone School. I live in Mt. Vernon, Kentucky. I'm in Mrs. Noe's class. the road I live on is Cemetery Road. I would really like to have a PSP for Christmas. I would like a blue one. I want it for Christmas. I should get this PSP because I clean my room everyday. I learn in school everyday too. I am a good listener. I hope you are ready for Christmas.

Love, Matt
Dear Santa,

My name is Shelby Newland. I am in first grade at Roundstone. I am 7 years old. I'm writing to tell you what I want for Christmas. I would really like a necklace. I want a gold necklace with a heart. I should get his gift because when my Mana can't breathe, I get her breathing thing, I help my teacher at school. Have a good Christmas.

Love, Shelby Newland
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a Princess, talking kitchen for Christmas? I will help my Mom clean the house. I will be a good girl. Please bring me this for Christmas.

Your friend, Kaleigh
Dear Santa,

I need a four-wheeler because my old four wheeler broke down. I need that four

wheeler go I can push things out that are stuck. I will clean my room if you will bring it to me. Thank you Santa.

Your friend, Billy Boggs
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a new pair of shoes? I want them to be brown and black tennis shoes. My old shoes are getting too tight. I will clean up my room if you will bring me a new pair of shoes. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Lydia Walker
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a Nintendo DS? I want one because my brother is getting one for his birthday. I want to play games on it. I will be nice to my brother and quit talking so much at school if you will bring me a DS. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend,
Emily Alexander
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a blue video camera for Christmas? I want to be able to make my own videos because I now have to use my Mom's camera. I will help my Mama around the house if you will bring me a new camera. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Kiaya Hensley
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a Nintendo DS for Christmas? I have been wanting one for a long time. I will listen and do what the grown-ups say if you will bring me one. Thank you Santa.

Sincerely, Faith Johnson
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me remote control car for Christmas? I don't have any remote control cars and I would like to have one to play with. I will help Mom around the house if you will bring me one. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Luke Lear
Dear Santa,

Would you get me a new Batman suit. I lost my mask to my old suit. That's why I need a new one the new suit has a card to open the wings so I would like that. Don't you think I should have a new Batman

suit? I will be responsible and not lose the card. Thank you, Santa for reading my letter.

Your friend, Hunter King
Dear Santa,

I want an X Box 360 because my other one broke. I will keep my room clean because it was a mess. Please bring it to me. Thank you, Santa.

Sincerely, Blane Smith
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a diamond castle with a horse and carriage? It also comes with a Barbie and a little puppy inside the carriage. I want it because the castle makes music I won't lose any of the pieces to it. I will clean up my room if you will bring it to me. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Shelbie Baker
Dear Santa,

Please bring me, an I-Pod because I lost my MP 3 Player. I want to be able to play games and watch movies on the I-Pod. I will make up my granny's bed for her and be good. Please bring me an I-Pod. Thank you, Santa.

Sincerely, Dakota Kirby
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a Ben 10 Creation Chamber? I will be able to create my own aliens with it. I will listen and do my work at school and I will clean up my room at home. Thank you, Santa.

Sincerely, Brandon Burke
Dear Santa,

I want a new basket ball goal for Christmas. My old basket ball goal is broken. I will help my Mom and grandma if you will bring me a new one. Please? Thank you, Santa.

Sincerely, Trinity Duham
Dear Santa,

What I want most is a Hannah Montana doll for my collection. I collect different kinds of dolls so I need a Hannah Montana one. I will behave in class, clean my room, and make my bed would you please bring me this doll? Thank you, Santa.

Love, Chelsey Schultz

Dear Santa,

I wish I had an X-Box 360. Would you grant my wish please? My Mom and Dad won't buy it. There are a lot of games that I want to play on it. I will be good to my sister, cousins, and family. Thank you, Santa Claus.

Sincerely, Aaron Clark
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a toy horse for Christmas? I like hourse so since I can't have a real one I would like a toy one. I will keep my room clean if you will bring me a toy horse. Thank you, Santa.

Love, Brianca Harding
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a new dress for Christmas? I want a pink shiny one. I like pink and shiny things. I will clean my room and do my work if you will bring me a new dress. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Brianna Collins
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a four-wheeler for Christmas? I promise I will drive slow and be careful. I will be good at home and at school if you will bring me a four-wheeler. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Byron Abney
Dear Santa,

Please bring me some army men for Christmas. I want to be in the army when I grow up. I will take care of them. I will clean up my room and be good. Thank you, Santa Clause.

Sincerely, Isaiah Didelot
Dear Santa,

I want an Easy Bake Oven. I want to bake my Mom a chocolate cake. I will help my sister clean her room if you will bring me an Easy Bake Oven. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Katelyn Evans
Dear Santa,

Would you bring me a motorized go cart for Christmas? I have been wanting one for a long time. I will be nice to my sister, clean my room and get my work done at school if you will bring me a go cart. Thank you, Santa. Please will you

grant my wish?

Your friend, Daniel Phillips
Dear Santa,

My name is Thomas Brock. I am six years old. I like to collect knives. The gift I want the most is a USA Chopper Knife. I have been good this year. I get good report cards every nine weeks. I listen to my teacher when she is talking. I help my Mom clean up the house, and I do not fight with my sister. This is why I think you should bring me a new Knife for Christmas. I am going to put a plate of cookies out for you under the Christmas tree. I hope you come soon.

Your friend, Thomas Brock
Dear Santa,

My name is Katelyn Singleton. I am seven years old. I go to Roundstone Elementary School and my teacher's name is Mrs. Atkin. The one gift I want you to bring me is a MP 3 Player. I have been a good girl this year. I have been helping my Mom take out the trash. And sometimes I help my Mom do the dishes. I clean my room when I am suppose to. This is why I deserve this present. I will have cookies and milk for you. I can't wait for you to get here.

Love, Katelyn Singleton
Dear Santa,

My name is Talor Long. I am six. I am in Mrs. Atkin's first grade class. The one thing I would like to have the most is a Baby Alive doll. I have been good this year. I teach my little brother how to do math. I listen to my teacher and practice reading. I also have been listening to my Mom. These are reason why I think I should get this present. Santa, I will have milk and cookies for you. I can't wait to see my gift.

Love, Taylor Long
Dear Santa,

My name is Josh Thacker. I am in Mrs. Atkin's class at Roundstone Elementary, and I am six years old. The one thing I would like to hav the most is a pool table. I think you should bring me this gift because I

have been really good. I help my Dad feed the animals, and I clean my room also, I do my homework. This is why I deserve this present. Santa, I will have milk and cookies for you. I can't wait to see what you bring me.

Sincerely, Josh Thacker
Dear Santa,

My name is Elizabeth Barron. I am six years old. I go to Roundstone Elementary School. My teacher is Mrs. Atkin. The one present I want the most for Christmas is a bike. I have been good this year. I am good at my house and at school. I do dishes and I clean my room. I also do my chores. These are some reasons why I should get this gift. I can't wait for you to get here. Will you tell all the reindeer hello for me?

Sincerely, Elizabeth Barron
Dear Santa

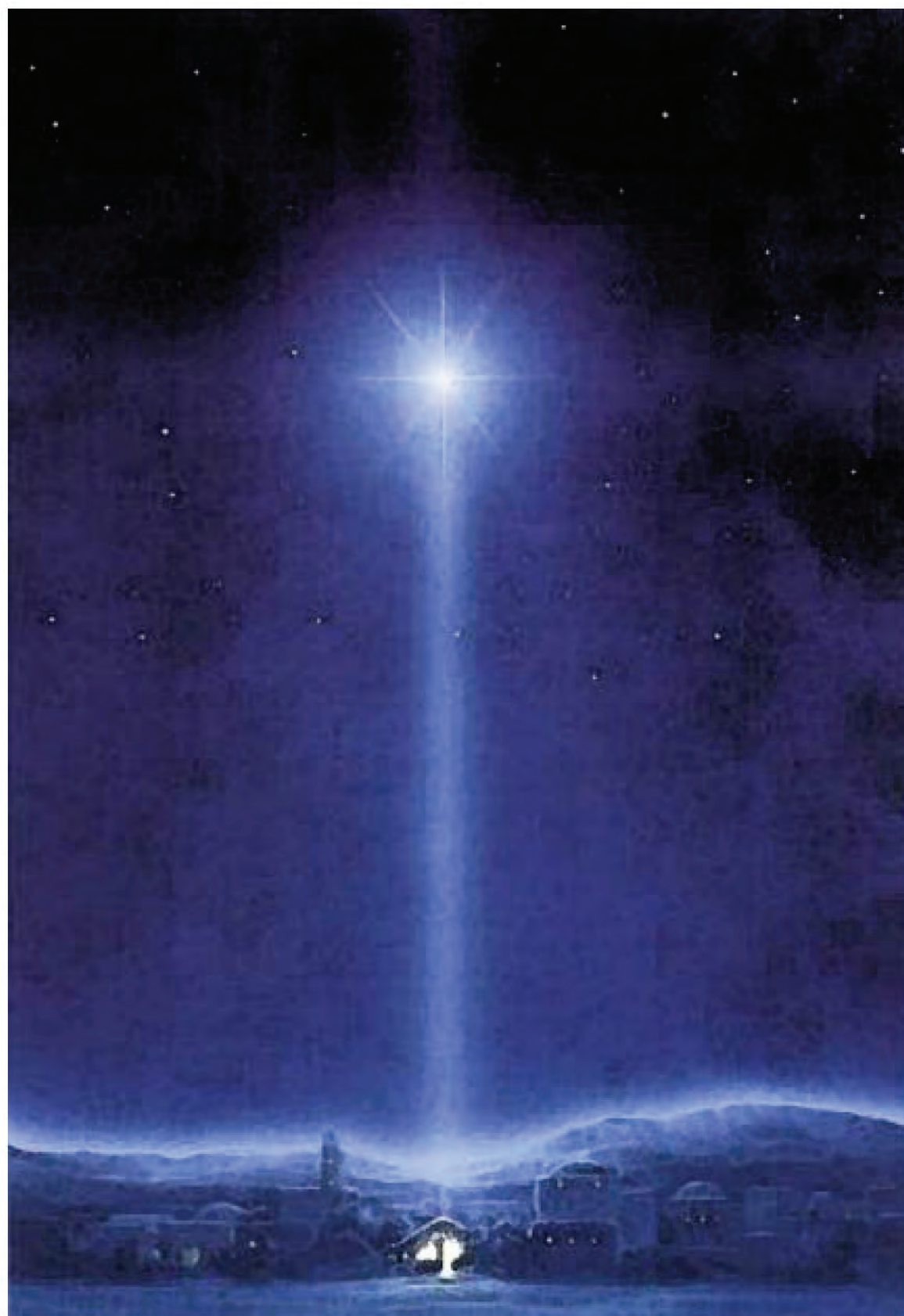
My name is Madison Jasper. I am a first grade in Mrs. Atkin's class at Roundstone Elementary. I am six years old. The one thing I would like to have the most is a real cat. I have been good this year. I listen to my Mom and Dad. I clean my room. I also help my Mom cook. These are some reasons why I should get this gift. Santa, there will be milk and cookies for you. Tell Rudolph I said hi.

Sincerely, Madison Jasper
Dear Santa,

My name is Selicity Broaddus. I am in Mrs. Atkin's first grade class. I go to Roundstone Elementary School. The one gift I want you to bring me is a Guitar Hero Game. I have been a good girl this year. I listen to my teacher. I help my Mom put up the Christmas tree. I have been good to my friends by playing with them. This is why I hope you bring me this present. I will have cookies and milk waiting for you. Tell the reindeer hi for me.

Your friend,
Selicity Broaddus

(Cont. to C7)



*The first
Christmas
light didn't
need electricity...*

Merry Christmas from your cooperative



JACKSON ENERGY

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Dear Santa,

I hope you and Mrs. Claus is doing good. I want a teddy bear. I Ps WII pink a pink Ipod and American Girl doll. Hannah Montana singing Rockin around the Christmas tree.

Love, Savannah Sweet

Dear Santa Claus,

I hope you bring me lots of presents because I been good very very good. I want big millenium falcon and helmet and blaster and a remote control whale.

Love, Jacob Hunt

Dear Santa,

I hope you bring me toys. I want some American Girl clothes. I want a Hannah Montana barbie that sings rockin around the Christmas tree.

Love, Emilee

Dear Santa,

What I hope for Christmas is long hair like Madison my cousin and we are b est friends forever yes we are cousins and I want a MP3 player with lots of songs.

Love, Mahayla

Dear Santa,

Can you bring me a hoola hoop for Christmas if you can that would be great Merry Christmas.

Love, Lindsey

Dear Santa,

What I want for Christmas is Nintendo DS and Spongebob game.

Love, Jeffrey

Dear Santa,

How are you today. Has it been really busy today. I been trying to be really good this year. What I want for Christmas is a horse and a dog named Biscuit. I think we got the stuff to make Christmas cookies and some milk.

Love, Billie Jo Allen

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a lot of toys because I like those and I want a makeup. Merry Christmas Santa.

Love, Autumn Higgins

Dear Santa,

I want a horse and a penguin. I want my family to have the best Christmas ever.

Love, Selena Burdine

Dear Santa,

I want a Santa house I would want to be a Cheerleader. Merry Christmas Santa.

Love, Erin Hindman

Dear Santa,

What I want for Christmas is a Heroes cause I will need it. I will leave you milk and cookies. Merry Christmas.

Love, Gracelynn Cromer

Dear Santa,

I want a little kitten. I have been tood this year and I hope that you bring everybody presents. Merry Christmas.

Love, Hale Graves

Dear Santa,

How are you doing today. I hope your doing fine. I want a game because it has batman. Merry Christmas.

Love, Reese

Dear Santa,

I want a new guitar.

Love, David

Dear Santa,

I want a Hannah Montana because I like Hannah Montana it is my favorite.

Love, Zoe Silva

Dear Santa,

I want Disney pig and pet suit.

Love, James Renner

Dear Santa,

Leah really wants a makeup kit cause I really like makeup and a Miley Cyrus suit and Merry Christmas.

Love, Leah

Dear Santa,

How are you today Santa Claus. I want a Barbie doll and a ball to roll with my sister.

Love, Kaitlyn Santo

Dear Santa,

I want for Christmas is a real bow and arrow and it is kamufloag and a rifle.

Love, Elijah Miller

Merry Christmas from all of us to all of you



Jennifer McCoart, Associate Director of Lexington's Hope Lodge, accepts several gift baskets made for cancer patients undergoing treatments from Gage Reynolds, Samantha Payne, and Avery Bradshaw, representing the RCMS Leadership Team. Also in the picture are Julie Sumner and Sherry Payne, American Cancer Society Community Representatives. Leadership Team members raised funds for the contents of these gift baskets in memory of Mrs. Ruth Coguer, who lost her hard-fought battle against cancer last December 15th.

Merry Christmas

Warm wishes to all of you for a joyous holiday season.

Many thanks for your continued patronage.



Front row from left: Roy D. Adams, Mike Blount and Chris Evans.
Back row from left: Julie Pigg, Sandy Durham, Ima Jean Taylor, Donna McClure and Karen Bullock.



Front row from left: Heather Richards, Betty Frederick and Alice Mae Faulkner.
Back row from left: Kim McClure, Kim Denney, Donna Stayton, Becky Mays and Cindy Griffith.
Not shown: Cathy Howard.

Notice

to all property owners bordering Lambert Road

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court recognizes the need to widen and improve Lambert Road due to increased traffic. **If you own property that borders Lambert Road please contact** Paralegal Kathy Robinson at the County Attorney's office at 606-256-2730 to draw up an easement so that the County can begin work. If you have any questions, feel free to contact secretary Amanda Owens at the County Judge Executive's office at 606-256-2856.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and desire to help us improve Lambert Road.

Sincerely,
Buzz Carloftis, County Judge Executive
Jan Stevens, Magistrate of the Fourth District

We Wish You A Merry Christmas

'Tis the season for us to say,
"Hope you enjoy a grand holiday."
May it be filled with joy and contentment,
Along with laughter and old-fashioned sentiment!

**Mt. Vernon Mayor
Clarice Kirby**



Paul and Clarice Kirby

Community Trust[®] Bank

Highway 461 Bypass • Mt. Vernon
606-256-5141

120 East Main Street • Mt. Vernon
606-256-5142



Closing at noon Christmas Eve and closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.



Mount Vernon Signal

Fourth Section

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Scenes from Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade



Some members of the RCHS JROTC are shown on their float in this year's Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade. In the photo are, from left: Casey Bradley, Ian Kelly, Ronnie Denny, Rachelle Halcomb, Jonathan Alexander, Nathan Singleton, Jordan Moore, Chris Robinson and Luke Allen. (Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Some members of the Rockcastle County High School FFA Chapter participated in the night time Christmas Parade in Mt. Vernon and the Brodhead Christmas parade. Shown above, at the Mt. Vernon parade were, front row, from left: Derek Adams, Nathan Bullock and Blake Moberly. Second row: Brittany Kirby and Kayla Hurt. Back row: Kayla Hurt, Brittany Adams, Kristen Bullock and Jeff Albright in back.



Some of the folks from the Renfro Valley Entertainment Center participated in the Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade. Shown above, from left: are Chase Cromer, Tanya Cromer, Sharon Stevens and CEO Connie Hunt.



The Thacker Family participated in both the Mt. Vernon and Brodhead Christmas Parades. Shown above, from left are: Hailey Thacker, Shawn Thacker, Wendell Thacker, Shane Thacker and Hayden Thacker.



Roy and Pamela Martin



Roy Martin Pam Martin
Steve Martin
Billy Dowell Garry Hansel
Leigha Cameron

*Thank you for
your trust and
confidence in us
over the years*



Pam Martin Melanie Gray
Evelyn Ponder Leigha Cameron
Sherry Hansel Linda Martin



Denise Parsons brought her Kentucky Fried Chicken gang to the Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade. In the cab with Parsons is Andrea Reynolds, who is holding Maggie Reynolds. In the back of the truck, from left are: Amanda Smith, Lucy Cole, Gerald Polk and Tracey Shelton.



Paul Kirby waved to the camera as he drove Mt. Vernon Mayor and wife, Clarice, in this year's annual Christmas parade.

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MERRY Christmas

May you and the ones you care for enjoy a happy and healthy holiday season.

We thank you for your patronage throughout the year.



Front row: Perry and Cindy Lou Noe. Back row from left: Robert Miller, James Noe, Johnathan Rader and Kelley Hoskins. Not present: Cristi Bradley.

Merry CHRISTMAS

During the holiday season we take time to reflect on the past year and appreciate our customers and friends. God has blessed us with the resources to continue to serve our customers during these struggling times. We thank you for the business you have given us and look forward to our relationship in the coming year.

David's Tire Center & 24 Hr. Towing & Recovery



From left: Josh Thompson, James Bowles, Junior Stewart, Buster Denney, David Thompson, Wilbur Harrison and Trish Bullock.

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Mt. Vernon Automotive



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We will be open Christmas Eve at 7:30 a.m. to ? Closed Christmas and New Year's Day.



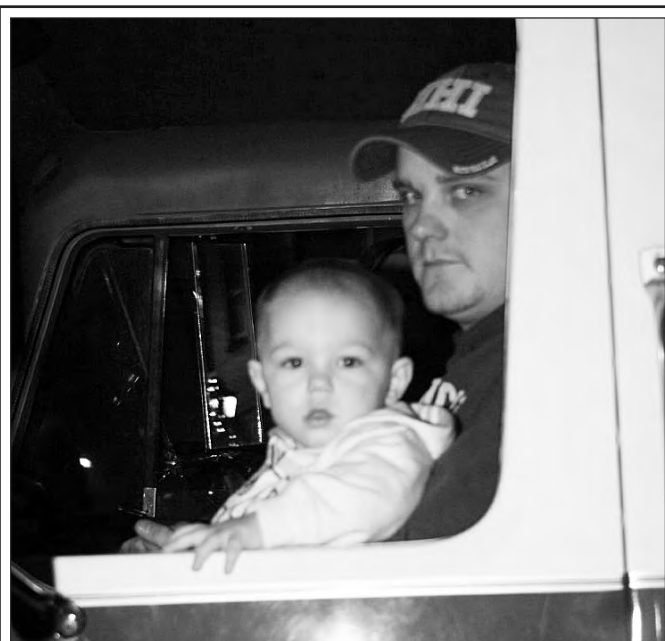
Some members of the Bittersweet Cloggers, performed before the Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade. Shown above, front row, from left: Olivia Hupp, Shari Proctor, Delani Reynolds, Alyssa Bustle, Carissa Looney, Sarah Pigg, Kelly Anderkin, Callie Northern and Miranda Clark. Back row, from left: Janine Norman, Paula Mink, Lisa Hopkins, Carolyn Collins and Casey Hardin.



Rockcastle EMS Paramedic Steve Griffin helped pass out stuffed animals at Mt. Vernon's Annual Christmas Parade.



MC Country Charlie Napier, left, got some help this year from son-in-law Danny Miller at Mt. Vernon's annual Christmas parade.



Mt. Vernon firefighter Jackie Wayne Weaver had help from his 17-month-old son, Ethan, driving the tanker truck at Mt. Vernon's Christmas parade.



Josh Thompson drove David's Tire Center's 1956 Mac Wrecker in Mt. Vernon's annual Christmas Parade.



Carolyn Napier and grandson Caden, were among the many who attended Mt. Vernon's Christmas parade.



Linda Robinson rode shotgun as Cody Robinson pulled the Wynn Family float at Mt. Vernon's annual Christmas parade.

No Paper Next Week!

There will be no Mount Vernon Signal the week of January 1st. Our next issue will be January 8th. The *Signal* office will be closed December 24th through January 4th.



It is the season to rejoice and celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.



Bottom row: Conner and Brianna. Back row: August, Hunter, Roy Scott and Tristan.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from
Appliance Service Center

U.S. 25 - Mt. Vernon
606-256-2626

We share the same
JOYS OF THE SEASON.

May this Christmas season bring you the joy of family and friends.



From left: Melissa Wilson, Teresa Jackson and Tiffany Kincaid.

Teresa Jackson Insurance Agency

Teresa Jackson, Agent

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from our families to yours



Corey Craig, President



John Hopkins



Cindy Wesley



Dennis Sargent



Barry Todd



Crystal Cotton



Tammy Hopkins



Kathy Burgin



Debbie Brock



Tanya Simpson



Vickie Petrey



Genieve Reppert



Sheila Lovell



Cheryll McCraey



Garrett Shackelford



Jenny Bray



Tarina Helton



Jeremy Reynolds



Freda Renner



Jon Adams



Robert Minichan



Kathy Stewart



Tanya Branscum



Tamey Howard



Gina Harding



Virginia Hansel



Judy Dillingham



Pamela Taylor



Joannie Edgington



Cathy Smith



Cheryl Rose



Dana McKinney



Donna Lynch



Chasity Allen



Tara Smith

Citizens Bank will be closing at noon on Christmas Eve and will be closed Christmas Day



Anita Shackelford



Elaine Vann



Sue Johnson



Dennis Welskircher



Sharon Baldwin



Hilda Judd



Jody Collins



Shannon Spurlock



Carol Bryant

We'd like to join you and your family in giving thanks to our Lord for His love and guidance, just as we thank you for your trust and support this past year.

Citizens Bank

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Mount Vernon
606-256-2500

McKee
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Somerset
606-451-2274

Real People. Real Progress.





Kathy Burgin and her daughter Katelyn, left and Sheila Lovell, right, attended Mt. Vernon's annual Christmas Parade. (Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin).



Renfro Valley entertainer and local business owner, Glenn Thompson drove his 1996 Jeep Wrangler in Mt. Vernon's night Christmas parade. His wife, Retha was along for the ride.



Tara Baldwin performed with the RCHS band in the Mt. Vernon and Brodhead Christmas Parades.

Rockcastle Hospital Rocks at HOT EXPO

Rockcastle Hospital rocked as this year's gold sponsor for HOT EXPO, Health Occupations Today career fair. Hospital employees represented several departments in an effort to educate area high school students on careers in the healthcare industry. Rockcastle County High School was one of over 15 county schools who attended this year's event.

HOT EXPO 2008 students and exhibitors braved the cold on November 21st attracting the largest turnout in its eight-year history. 1,028 high school students attended Health Occupations Today career fair in spite of school being cancelled in three of our 15-county service area counties due to snow. Over 1,500 students had pre-registered to attend this year's event. A total of 165 representatives warmed up the exhibit halls with their 78 exhibits at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset in an effort to inform students about the numerous health career opportunities.

The Southern KY AHEC, located at Rockcastle Hospi-

Shingles vaccine now available

The Rockcastle County Health Department is now offering the Shingles Vaccine. A single dose if the vaccine is indicated for adults 60 years of age and older.

Shingles is caused by the varicella zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox. It is a painful rash often with blisters (Herpes Zoster). The rash appears on the face or body and can last 2-4 weeks and be very painful. Very rarely, a shingles infection may cause pneumonia, hearing problems, blindness, brain inflammation or even death. Only someone who has had chickenpox or gotten the chickenpox vaccine can get shingles. You cannot get shingles from another person. However, a person who has never had chickenpox or chickenpox vaccine could get chickenpox from someone with shingles. Shingles is more common in people over the age of fifty.

Please call the Rockcastle County Health Department at 256-2242 to schedule your vaccine appointment.

tal, organizes the event each year inviting area colleges, universities, hospitals, health care providers, and health care professionals to participate as exhibitors. Many exhibitors feature interactive or hands-on features at their booths to assist students in learning about health careers. Since our region is medically underserved, HOT Expo is a significant way to expose a large number of students to the many health care opportunities available. Students learned about financial aid for education, received scholarship resource guides, met college admission representatives and health care professionals, and participated in some hands-on activities.

The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) conducted college financial aid presentations to all students and educators upon

arrival. After the 30 minute presentations, students visited exhibits for an hour.

The Southern KY AHEC thanks all the sponsors for their generous contributions this

year, especially our gold sponsor, Rockcastle Hospital. We should all feel good about our combined efforts to combat the health care shortage in our medically underserved area.



Emmett Masten, left, Rockcastle Hospital Physical Therapy, demonstrates to students at HOT EXPO the use of a NMES device which is used to re-educate muscles.



Rockcastle Hospital rocked as this year's gold sponsor for HOT EXPO, Health Occupations Today career fair. Hospital employees represented several departments in an effort to educate area high school students on careers in the healthcare industry. Rockcastle County High School was one of over 15 county schools who attended this year's event. Pictured above are the many RCHS students who attended the event.

SEASONS Greetings



from
**Rockcastle Jailer
 James Miller**
 & Rockcastle Detention Center staff
 and staff

Assistant Jailer Howard Haddix
 Supervisors: Wilmer Robinson, Ernie Graves,
 Ronnie Barnett and Brian Cromer.
 Class D Coordinator Jennifer Mason
 Transport Officer Bill Lawrence

Deputies:
 Nicholas Thomas, Nathan Carter, Patty Barron,
 Barbara Allen, Rissie Ballinger, Mammie Vickers,
 Anna Bustle, Jason Hansel, Heather Bussell, Jason Adams,
 Josie Adams.

WARMEST WISHINGS

To our valued friends, go our best wishes for a joyous and happy holiday season.

*Merry Christmas and
 Happy New Year!*

**State Senator and
 Mrs. Ed Worley**



Ed and Jamie Worley

148 volunteers take part in 2008 Roadside Pride campaign

By James Renner, Rockcastle County Solid Waste Coordinator and Pride Coordinator

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the

folks that volunteered during the 2008 Roadside Pride Campaign. I had a total of 14 groups with 148 volunteers that worked a total of 313 hours to pick up 22.1 miles of roadway

from which they removed 317 bags of trash, 22 tires, and 2 gas tanks. This does not include the totals from Mt. Vernon and

(Cont. to D8)



Conway Baptist Church



Fairview Baptist Church



Ottawa Baptist Church



Grace Baptist Church



Brindle Ridge Baptist Church



Pongo Volunteer Fire Department



Northside Baptist Church



Pine Hill Baptist Church



Little Country Church



from

*Rockcastle Circuit Court Clerk
Teresa Vanzant*



Front row from left: Chief Deputy Clerk Brenda McKnight, Teresa Vanzant and Doris Cromer.

Back row from left: Marsha Olinger, Crystal Griffin, Pat Brown, Liza York, Teresa Amix, Joyce Allen and Renita Blanton.

Not present: Austin Miller

Closed December 24th - December 27th and January 1st - January 3rd

Rockcastle County Courthouse • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-2581

“PRIDE”

(Cont. from D7)

Livingston’s Roadside Pride Cleanups. This was another outstanding effort put forth by many outstanding individuals. You are truly making a difference in Rockcastle County!

The following groups and individuals participated: Pongo Volunteer Fire Department (David Hawkes, Tony Bullock, Roger Bullock, Randy McClure, Ethan McClure, Jerry Bullock, Danny Mize); Conway Baptist Church (Jeff Isaacs, Joe McIntosh, Jim Ritchey, Brenda Powell, Anna C. Brandenburg, Joshua Miller, Eugene Brandenburg, Noel Staggs, Peyton Martin, Emily Clark, Sara Clark Christi Clark, Aaron Clark, Brenda Hackworth, Jennifer Hackworth, Charlie King); Little Country Church (Jack Weaver, Jackie Weaver, Mary Lovell, Bobby Phelps, Kathy Weaver, Carleigh McClure, Keaton McClure, Martina Alcorn, Melissa Withem, Holly Bryant, Grant Bryant, Garrett Bryant, Susan Smith, Brooklyn Smith, Ashley Smith); Concerned Citizens of Pongo (Edna Renner); The Raychel Carpenter Family (Jennifer Carpenter, Raychel Carpenter); Flames of Brodhead (Heather Bussell, Charles Kelly, Shay Barnett, Bobbi Mullins, Bryanna Mullins, Virginia Newland, Bryan Bussell, Megan Caudill, Johnny Newland, Amanda Kerns, Jacob Hunt); Fairview Baptist Church (Shandi Johnson, Virginia Case, Luther Isaacs, Cheryl Mullins, Luke J. Mullins, Megan Cromer, Doris

Cromer, James Cromer, Carly Cromer, Spencer Mullins, Angela Mullins, Zoe Burdette, Thomas Burdette, Twila Burdette, Derrick Hughes, Roy Lee Croucher, Brother Vaughn Raser, Jesse E. Mullins); Ottawa Baptist Church (Rhonda Bray, Ashley Miller, Loretta Bray, Shanlee Burton, Samantha Smoker, Kevin Craig, Breana Bryant, Melinda Rae, Camille Jones, Starla Bond, Mickel McDaniel, Allie Johnson, Abe Kirby, Megan Taylor, Beth Potter, Danette Craig, Chelsea Whiteley, Cheyenne Hensley); Northside Baptist Church (Justin Poynter, Dakota Molina, Sarah Snow, Marie Poynter, Felicia Cameron, Russell Poynter, Jon Burdette); Brindle Ridge Baptist Church (Mike Sowder, David Sowder, Jennifer Miller, Dezarae Miller, Stevie Miller, Tamara S. Clontz, Chris Saylor, Heather Clontz, Casey Miller, Ron Roberts, Jan Roberts, Beth Clontz, Marilyn Coffey, Kaye Cameron, Billy Cameron, Marcia Coffey, Kyle Childress, Melanie Childress, Lewis Coffey); Grace Baptist Church (Dwayne McKinney, Anthony McKinney, Reva McKinney, Sara McKinney, Melvin Harrison, Matt Lunsford, Harold Lunsford, Ray Offutt, Shanlee Burton, Lauren Burton, Shannon Burton, Ashley Powell, Ben Powell, Tammy Powell, Tony Mahaffey, Trevor Richardson, Kathy Dean, Carolyn Brandenburg); Pine Hill Baptist Church (Willie Martin, Jennie Martin); Concerned Citizens of Cleft Rock (Robin Botkin, Becky Botkin, Eddie Fields); Poplar Grove Baptist Church Youth Group (Lindsey Perkins, Kaden Perkins, Kristina Hayes, Zachary Hayes, Teresa

Vanzant, Lonnie Vanzant, Holly Kirby, Jamie Linder, Jayna Albright, Jaydon Albright, Joanna Albright, Stephanie Hurst).

I would also like to give a special thank you to my Pride committee members (Carolyn Brandenburg and Deb Bledsoe). Their countless volunteer hours are priceless.

I also want to thank Livingston Mayor J.C. Griffen and Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby and the Mt. Vernon Pride Coordinators (Wayne Bullock and Jill Medley) and everyone that volunteered from these two cities.

I apologize in advance for any omissions or misspellings.

Thank you for your continued help and support!



Poplar Grove Baptist Church

Seasons Greetings



David Woodall



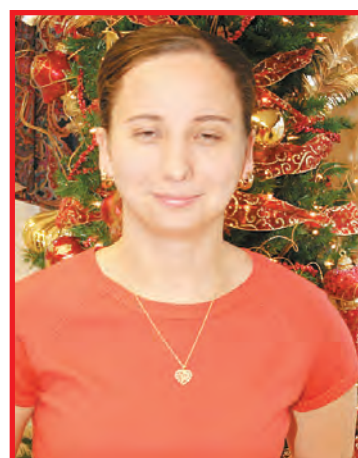
Anthony Asher



Kim Daugherty



Maria Hensley



Mary Rowe



Doug Ponder

With sincere best wishes to all during this season of peace and joy. We're so glad to have friends and neighbors like you.



PB Bank

Closing at noon Christmas Eve and closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day



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Danville 238-2265

Mt. Vernon 256-2265

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Concerned Citizens of Pongo



Concerned Citizens of Cleft Rock

With Our Gratitude



To all our friends we hold so “deer,” a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you for your kind patronage.

Joseph B. Clontz, CPA
Main St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-3623

Mount Vernon Signal

Fifth Section

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Scenes from the Brodhead Christmas Parade 2008



Members of the Skaggs Creek Baptist Church participated in the annual Brodhead Christmas Parade. Church members also had a live Nativity Scene at the church on December 12th and 13th.



As they do each year, the Wynn Family participated in both the Brodhead and Mt. Vernon Christmas Parades. (Brodhead Christmas Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin)

See more photos from parade on following pages

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Brodhead Hometown Market owner Scott Hail, gave employee Pauline Coleman a ride in this year's Christmas Parade in Brodhead.



Debbie Philbeck waves to the crowd at the Brodhead Christmas Parade. She got a ride from husband, Thomas.



Dr. Karen Saylor gave daughter Mahala a ride in Brodhead's annual Christmas parade.



Earl Blanton drove the late Jerry Cash's 1968 Chevy Impala in the Brodhead Christmas Parade. Cash was Blanton's nephew.



May you and your loved ones be inspired by the true meaning of **CHRISTMAS** and its enduring message of peace, faith and love during this holy season.

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460 Eastern Bypass, Richmond • Wal-Mart Super Center, Richmond
1000 Brandy Ln., Richmond • 3750 Irvine Rd., Waco
350 Richmond St., Mount Vernon

ATM Locations

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2091 Kingston Rd.

Berea

711 Chestnut St.
Berea College
(Inside Alumni Bldg.)
US 25 North
305 Estill St.
(Berea Hospital Lobby)

Mount Vernon

350 Richmond Street

Hours

Lobby 8:30-4:00 Mon.-Fri.
Wal-Mart Super Center 10:00-8:00 Mon.-Sat.
Drive-Up Window 8:00-5:00 Mon.-Thurs.
8:00-6:00 Fri.
8:00-12:00 Sat.



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RCHS band member Jordan Hemsley carried the banner at the Brodhead Christmas Parade. At left is Johnna Ballard and at right is Sam Bullen.



Several RCHS band parents also participated in the Brodhead Christmas Parade. Shown above, from left are: Ann Craig, Lisa Hemsley, Betty McFerron, Trevor Hemsley and Pennie Berry.



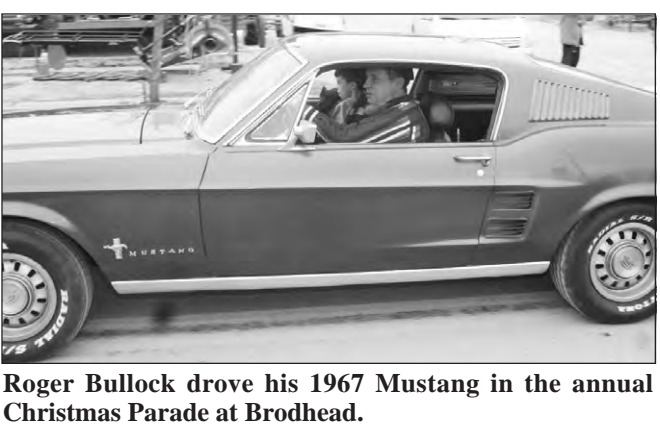
RCHS band parent, Pat Craig, led the RCHS band in the annual Christmas parade at Brodhead.



Some of the members of RCHS Band who participated in the Brodhead Christmas parade are shown above, from left: Nicole McFerron, Meghan Nation, Josh Stallworth, Sarah Morgan, Tara Baldwin, Andrea Gonzalez and Caleb Coffey. The band also participated in the Mt. Vernon Christmas parade.



Doris Blanton and Molly Belcher attended Brodhead's annual Christmas parade.



Roger Bullock drove his 1967 Mustang in the annual Christmas Parade at Brodhead.

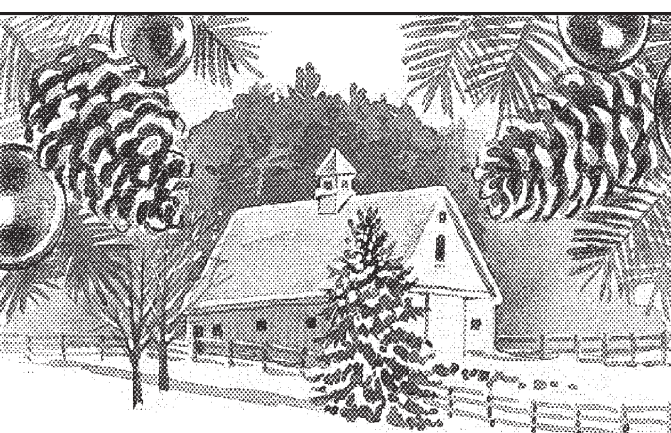


Tony Bullock followed his dad Roger in his 1967 Mustang at the Brodhead Christmas Parade.



Firefighter Bryan Mullins rode on the back of a Brindle Ridge Fire Truck driven by his dad, Tiny.

Happy Holidays!
from your friends in the
Rockcastle County P.V.A. Office



With You In Mind At Christmastime
 May you and your family enjoy the many blessings that give true meaning to the holiday season. We feel privileged and blessed to have you as our neighbors.
Tobacco Barn
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 256-0079
 Closed Christmas Day



*Ruth Thompson, Cyndie Offutt, Janet Vaughn
 Margaret Offutt*

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Richard and Donna Dean had their 1931 Model A Ford at the Christmas Parades in both Brodhead and Mt. Vernon.



The Thacker family participated in both the Brodhead and Mt. Vernon Christmas parades. In the wagon above are: Hayden Thacker, Gari Sue Thacker, Hailey Thacker, Lois Hemshaw, Wendell Thacker and George Hemshaw.



Michael Creech, right, a employee of Brodhead Hometown Market, rode with family members Nathan Creech, Shelby Creech, Christy Creech and Tyler Creech in the Brodhead Christmas Parade.



Harris Burton participated in the annual Brodhead Christmas Parade.

the Spirit of Christmas

Let us not forget the true meaning of Christmas - the birth of our Savior and His message of love and goodwill toward all mankind.

Wishing you and yours the best this Holiday Season!

State Representative
Danny Ford



Seated from left: Sue Ford holding Bailee Allen, Danny Ford, Rebecca Ford holding Bryan Ross Ford. Back row from left: Ben Allen, Danetta Ford Adams, Darren Allen, Angie Ford Adams, Eric Adams and Matt Ford.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Our best wishes to all our customers.

We appreciate your patronage in 2008 and look forward to serving you in 2009.



From left: Nathaniel Mullins, Mark Smith, Steve Robbins, David and Millie Eaton, Eric Wallin, David Eaton, Jr. and Rodney Mullins. Seated: Pauline Eaton.

Central Body Service

Mt. Vernon • 606-256-4210

Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



The True Spirit of Christmas

The Birth of Christ

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. *Luke 2:1-7*

The Flight

And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. *Matthew 2:13-15*

- ### Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center
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Melissa Brock, Adm. Asst.
Charles D. Black, CFO
- Director of Nursing**
Cynthia D. Burton
Gwendolyn B. Lay, Asst.
- Nursing - Acute Care (East, West, South)**
Natasha L. Abner
Zella M. Abney
Katerina E. Alcorn
Angela R. Allen
Karla P. Ashley
Renee N. Barnes
Rose O. Barnett
Anita E. Barron
Lesha Bell
Charlotte Benson
Edward V. Berry
Melissa Brock
Kimberly L. Blair
Johnnicie Ann Bond
Virginia G. Bond
Lana K. Bowlin
Carla Boyle
Susan M. Britton
Judith Brock-Baker
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Melinda G. Brown
Teresa A. Brown
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Donna S. Burdine
Susan E. Burdine
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Jennifer D. Cameron
Sandra Campbell
Staci K. Campbell
Tony Campbell
Kelly S. Cappa
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Lisa Kay Cornett
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Rebecca Daniels
Frances Dargavell
Bethany Deathage
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Mary Catherine House
Sharon F. Hughes
Peggy Ann Hurd
Brandon Ingram
Angela Marie Inman
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Stacey Kerns
T.J. Kidwell
Pattie L. King
Teresa R. King
Heather D. Kirby
Sarah Danielle Lamb
- Easter E. Layoff
Melanie D. Leece
Marilyn A. Little
Kristina Rene Lowery
Tammie M. Manning
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Jodi Lynn Mays
Jessica McClanahan
Cheryl L. McClure
Julie A. McClure
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Mac McKee
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Pamyla Delane Mink
Tracy L. Mink
Wesley E. Mobley
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Devonda C. Morris
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Jessica L. Norton
Jessica Paige Osborne
David W. Parker
Arlene W. Paull
Sheree Kim Petrey
Timothy W. Phelps
Vernon E. Powell
Jessica Powell
Joanna Powell
Wendy Retta Powell
Melinda K. Poynter
Tonya Prewitt
Kelly M. Price
Melanie Ransdell
Jeanie L. Renner
Michael W. Renner
Dianna K. Roberts
Katherine Robinson
Rebecca Rowland
Carolyn R. Russell
Hazel Edie Sagraves
Sherry L. Saylor
Elizabeth Scarborough
Lacy R. Sexton
Jennifer B. Short
Virgie Simmons
Alice D. Smith
Amy Smith
Jaime Smith
Sandra Sowder
Josephine Ann Sparks
Heather R. Spires
Norma Jean Stewart
Tara L. Stewart
Connie Sturgill
Justin R. Taylor
Elizabeth Tracy Zornes
Trudy Michelle Trimble
Dianna Joy Vanzant
Lanta Mae Vaught
Sarah J. Wardrip
William M. Wells
Jeanette Martin Wheat
Nancy J. White
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Vena L. Willis
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Harold D. Costello
April D. Cromer
Linda S. Foley
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Sharon Kay Hardy
Donna J. Hasty
Brenda K. Hayes
Delbert Ellis Hines
Patricia D. Hobbs
Angela R. Holland
- Shirley E. Howard
Peggy Ann Hubbard
Janice B. Ingram
Tabitha D. Jones
Debra D. Lawrence
Teresa A. Lawrence
Christina L. Lawson
Peggy LeMaster
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Michael L. McFerron
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Jennine Petrey
Brittney A. Powell
Tamara L. Powell
Hank R. Price
Melody J. Reppert
Tammy E. Reynolds
John Roark
Stacey L. Roberts
Lyndsay R. Owens
Elizabeth Hazel Rumsey
Diana L. Skaggs
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Vernon E. Sowder
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Dr. McElwain's Office
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Vicki L. Whiteley
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Kimberly Cornelius
Angela J. Cornelius
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Doris Caldwell
Suanne Hopkins
Tiffany Patrick
Deborah M. Woodall
Beverly S. Wooton
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Angelina D. Bishop
Ray Brackett
Kristi M. Cummins
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Jeremy Lance Adams
Jonas A. Adams
Gary G. Asher
Jordan Tyler Brock
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Edgar Alvin Carpenter
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- Karen M. Wynn
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Shirley Faye Cromer
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Becky L. Prewitt
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Information Systems
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May Your Holidays Be Blessed

Merry Christmas and Many Thanks From The Staff Of

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HOSPITAL AND RESPIRATORY CARE CENTER, INC.

ROCKCASTLE

MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING

A special time when hearts grow warmer greetings are exchanged and good will abounds.

May the holidays be a joyful time for you and your family



Jason Leger and Kenzi Tucker gave their son, Jacob, a ride in Jason's horse drawn wagon in Brodhead's annual Christmas parade.



Emily Dyehouse, right, was the MC at Brodhead's Christmas parade. She is shown with Monica Childress and nephew, Weston Falin.



Donovan Pigg, a member of the Just Horsin' Around Crew, rode his horse in the Brodhead Christmas parade.



Delina Bowles and little Katie West got a ride from James Bowles in a David's Tire Center wrecker at the Brodhead Christmas parade. (Brodhead Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin).



Mt. Vernon firefighter Brian Bullock drove one of the department's fire trucks in the annual Brodhead Christmas parade.

**Happy Holidays
to You and
Your Family**
Sigmon Farm
Bill & Nancy Sigmon and family



Cecil King gave County Attorney Billy Reynolds a ride in the Brodhead and Mt. Vernon Christmas parades.



Earl Blanton drove the late Jerry Cash's 1968 Chevy Impala in the Brodhead Christmas Parade. Cash was Blanton's nephew.

Seasons Greetings 

Front row from left: Sonya McGuire, Norma Houk and Anita Moore.
Back row from left: Brianna McFerron, Amy Price, Janet Burdine, Thelma Adams

As we celebrate the joyous holiday season, my deputies and I would like to wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas.

May your days be filled with joy, peace and the best of health.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from

County Clerk Norma Houk

Closed December 24th - 27th • January 1st - 3rd

BLESSINGS OF CHRISTMAS

When we think of all the faces we've come to know in the past few years, it gladdens our hearts and gives us much to celebrate this Christmas.

So to all of you, who have given us so much joy, we offer our gratitude and best wishes for a very merry season.



Jim and Martha Cox

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Tim Albright gave longtime Brodhead Parade Coordinator, Victoria Dunn, a ride in this year's parade.



Ashlee West got a lift from boyfriend Josh Thompson in the annual Brodhead Christmas parade.



Donna Bishop, who is the President of the Just Horsin' Around Crew, rode her horse in the Brodhead Christmas Parade.



Bryanna Mullins gave Amanda and Austin Kerns a ride in a Kubota, in the annual Christmas Parade in Brodhead.



Roger Carpenter pulled the Skaggs Creek Baptist Church float in the annual Brodhead Christmas Parade.



Heather Bussell, left and Megan Caudill, dressed up as Brodhead firefighters and rode a 4-wheeler in the annual Christmas parade at Brodhead.



Livingston Fire Chief Sam Stallworth drove one of Livingston's fire trucks in the Christmas parades at Brodhead and Mt. Vernon.



Jerry Brown gave wife Linda, a ride in the Brodhead Christmas Parade.

No Paper Next Week!

There will be no Mount Vernon Signal the week of January 1st. Our next issue will be January 8th. The *Signal* office will be closed December 24th through January 4th.

Country Care
Day Care
Now Enrolling
256-KIDS (5437)
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Hark! The Herald Angels Sing; Glory To The Newborn King

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2: 10-11

Wishing you tidings of great joy this holiday season and beyond.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

from the families & staff of

William D. Reynolds County Attorney



Front row from left: Patty Kirby, Kathy Robinson, assistant County Attorney Jerome Fish, Amanda Clark and Jessi Lay.
Back row from left: Julie Adams, Josh McKibben, County Attorney Billy Reynolds and Heather Bussell.

City of Mt. Vernon awarded \$15,000 ARC mini-grant

By Sharon Dodson,
The Center for
Rural Development

The Center for Rural Development has awarded the City of Mt. Vernon a \$15,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) mini-grant for a feasibility study on the development of a tourist center in Rockcastle County.

Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby, commissioners, and representatives of the Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle Tourist Commission accepted the grant from officials with The Center, ARC, and Kentucky Department for Local Government at the "Developing and Implementing Community Strategies" Summit, held Dec. 10 at the Rural Law Enforcement Technology Center (RULETC) in Hazard, Ky.

The need for a tourist center—which could double as a conference and civic facility—was reinforced in a community strategic plan completed by the local tourist commission. The project was identified as a priority item in that plan, and considered "an immediate need" in the tourism portion of a 2002 community strategic plan.

Funding support provided by the ARC will allow the city to begin implementation of these strategic plan priorities through the development of a feasibility study for the tourist center. A consultant who specializes in economic/tourism development will be hired to

complete the study.

The study will be made available to potential funding entities to demonstrate the viability of the construction of a tourist center in Rockcastle County. A tourist center is expected to increase tourism in the area and create opportunities for growth and the development of new businesses.

Mt. Vernon will provide a match of \$3,750 for a total project cost of \$18,750.

In addition to the City of Mt. Vernon, eight other Southern and Eastern Kentucky communities received shares of a total of \$104,000 in ARC funding awarded by the Developing and Implementing Community Strategies program administered by The Center.

Those communities included the cities of Beattyville, Corbin, Liberty, and Paintsville, and Bell, Lee, Letcher, and Morgan counties.

Awards are based on the realistic completion of a local economic and community development project within a six-month period, expected or anticipated outcomes, and the importance of the project to the community. Grant amounts range between \$5,000 and \$20,000.

Lonnie Lawson, President and CEO of The Center, said The Center is pleased to award the City of Mt. Vernon and the other communities the critical grant funding.

"This funding will assist these communities in developing or furthering plans and strategies that will help fuel positive and tangible economic and community development activity in our region for years to come," Lawson said.

Bob Mitchell, district administrator for U.S. Congressman Harold "Hal" Rogers (KY-05), spoke during the event of the importance of the ARC grant funding.

"ARC has been vital in transforming this region," Mitchell said. "So many times ARC has come to the rescue of Southern and Eastern Kentucky."

Mitchell attended the event on behalf of Congressman Rogers, who was participating in a special congressional session in Washington, D.C. Mitchell said the ARC has been instrumental in helping fund community projects that improve the quality of life throughout Appalachia.

"Without ARC, we would not be able to have the infrastructure that we enjoy in Eastern Kentucky," Mitchell said.

Funds awarded through The Center's Developing and

Implementing Community Strategies Program assist local governments in 32 federally designated distressed counties in Southern and Eastern Ken-

tucky in the creation of a strategic plan or implementation of priority community development projects identified in existing community-based strate-

gic plans.

This year marked the first time communities have been able to apply for funding to develop a strategic plan.



The Center for Rural Development presents the City of Mt. Vernon with a \$15,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) mini-grant for a feasibility study for Rockcastle County Tourist Center. Pictured from left are: Lonnie Lawson, President and CEO of The Center for Rural Development; Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle County Tourist Commission representatives Janine Norman, Miachel Robbins, director Susan Laws and Charles Saylor; Mayor Clarice Kirby; Bob Mitchell, district administrator for U.S. Congressman Harold "Hal" Rogers (KY-05); Sue Moreland, ARC senior program manager; Peggy Satterly, staff assistant, Office of Federal Grants, Department for Local Government; and Iris Parker, representative of Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle Tourism Commission. The presentation was made at a "Developing and Implementing Community Strategies Summit" held Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Rural Law Enforcement Technology Center (RULETC), a national training center for small and rural law enforcement agencies in Hazard, Ky.



Congressman Hal Rogers presented Susan Laws, Executive Director of the Mt. Vernon/Rockcastle County CVB, with the VIP (very impressive project) award at the eight annual TOUR Southern and Eastern Kentucky Caucus at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset, Kentucky. Pictured from left: Congressman Rogers, Susan Laws and Courtney Norvell - 2008 Ms. Redbud.

Laws receives VIP award

On November 24, 2008 Congressman Hal Rogers presented Susan Laws, Executive Director of the Mt. Vernon/Rockcastle County CVB, with the VIP (very impressive project) award at the eight annual TOUR Southern and Eastern Kentucky Caucus at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset, Kentucky.

When you think pink you think REDBUD in our region of Kentucky. Each year TOUR SEKY has worked tirelessly to make April Redbud Month in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. Thus far TOUR has distributed and planted over 300,000 new Redbud Trees, funded several new festivals, purchased Redbud Banners for communities along with many other events. But TOUR SEKY needed some event that would educate, invite, excite and kick off the month of April annually. In 2007 TOUR held a walking event that started out with about

25 participants, but grew to an overwhelming number of over 500 participants for 2008. This VIP Award was awarded to a group that worked diligently to get the word out, to invite local businesses, hospitals, health departments and students from across the region to come learn about the importance of our own health and how "walking and exercise" impact us. Congratulations to Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle County Tourism Commission and Ms. Susan Laws for their Redbud Health Walk.

TOUR SEKY is an initiative of Congressman Hal Rogers. The organization's mission is to promote, develop and expand the existing and potential tourism industry throughout southern and eastern Kentucky in an effort to contribute to the economic and cultural growth of the region. For additional information about TOUR SEKY contact 606-677-6142.



Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

We appreciate your patronage throughout the year



Front row from left: Chrissy Cash, Clarissa Hodge, Crystal Frith, Teresa Stevens and Danetta Ford Allen.

Back row from left: Johnny Bullock, Matthew Silcox, Sam Ford, David Henderson and Jeff Cromer.

Not shown: Danny Ford, Roy Adams, Judy Ford, Sandy Bullen, Debbie Smith, Jeff Burdette, Harold Bustle, Steve Bullock, Linda Durham, Shelby Reed and Becky McNabb

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Mount Vernon

Attention

BRODHEAD WATER CUSTOMERS

Due to the installation of a new water line, Brodhead Water System has called a

BOIL WATER ADVISORY

until further notice for the following areas:

Hwy. 1505 beginning at the junction of Hwy. 150 to the end of Hwy. 1505 and all streets or roads that junction with Hwy. 1505

This Boil Water Advisory will not be lifted until the water line and tank are completed.