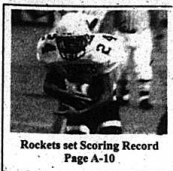


# Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 113 - Number 52 Ph. (606) 256-2244 - 50 a copy - Thursday, September 28 , 2000



## County tax rate lower

Rockcastle County property tax payers can expect tax bills in the mail this week.

This year's county rate is .7260, down from .7427, from a year ago. Property owners in the county with a piece of property valued at \$50,000 will owe the county \$363. If you own a \$100,000 piece of property will cost you \$726.

Rockcastle County Property Valuation Administrator Margaret Offutt said the lower rate came about because the Rockcastle School Board did not raise their rate and the state actually lowered theirs.

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court raised their rate four percent, but was not enough to keep the total rate from going down.

The county's total property assessment is \$234 million.

The City of Mt. Vernon also set their tax rate at .175 up from .170 a year ago.

That means Mt. Vernon will collect \$87.50 on a \$50,000 piece of property inside the city limits. That is on top of the county's tax bill.

The City of Mt. Vernon's total property assessment is \$50 million. At Brodhead the property tax rate is .240. That means a \$50,000 piece of property in Brodhead will cost land owners \$120, on top of the county's tax bill.

Brodhead's property assessment is \$18.6 million.

At Livingston the property tax rate is .250. A \$50,000 piece of property in Livingston will cost land owners \$125 on top of the county's tax bill.

The total property assessment in Livingston is \$3.2 million.

The county and all three cities also collect a tangible tax and the state collects a motor vehicle tax.

## Richards will speak at banquet

The Rockcastle County Conservation District and Mt. Vernon Lion's Club will host the 41st Annual Farmer's Business Banquet on October 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the Rockcastle County Middle School.

The featured guest speaker for the banquet will be Jody Richards, Speaker of the House of Representatives in Kentucky.

Richards, began his career as a teacher at Western Kentucky University, first ran for office in 1976, when he won the 20th district seat in the Kentucky House of Representatives, a position he holds to this day.

While still in his first term, Speaker Richards was called upon to

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Speaker Jody Richards

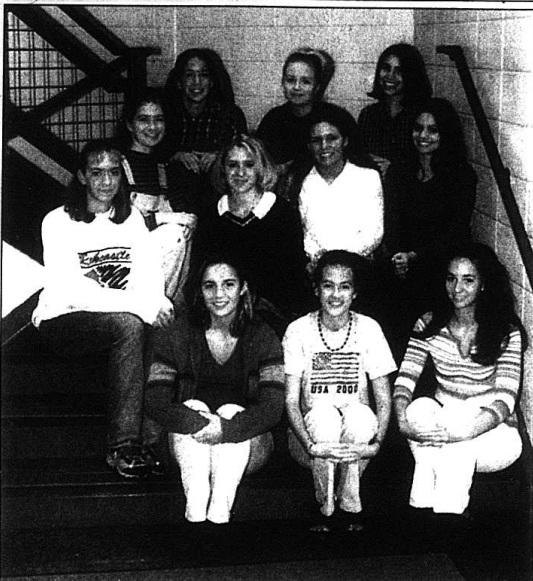
## Red Carpet Days continue

This week's edition of *The Mt. Vernon Signal* will be featuring the second installment of a new advertising promotion - Red Carpet Days. The promotion will run for the next six months. *Signal* readers will be able to acquaint and familiarize themselves with all different types of businesses and services in our trade area.

Special feature stories and photos will appear throughout our special promotion.

Each and every reader is urged to support and register at all of our Red Carpet Day advertiser's business.

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Homecoming festivities will be held at halftime of the Rockcastle, North Laurel football game on Friday night at the Rockcastle County Middle School. Football Homecoming Queen candidates at RCMS this year are shown above, front row, from left: Allison Anderkin, daughter of Jim and Perlina Anderkin; Jennifer Kidwell, daughter of Paul and Angel Kidwell and Angie Newcomb, daughter of Farley and Teresa Newcomb. Second row, from left: Brittany Asher, daughter of Gary Asher and Sherry Asher; Angela Boring, daughter of Bobby and Becky Boring; Tammy Dees, daughter of Lloyd and Donna Dees; Tammy Peyton, daughter of Phyllis Renner and Kalisa Robinson, daughter of Kenny and Sherry Robinson. Back row, from left: Tara Burton, daughter of Terry and Cindy Burton; Kayla Hammond, daughter of Willie and Kathy Hammond and Chelsen Stratton, daughter of Philip and Serena Stratton.



About 35 local people, including eighteen members of the Rockcastle County Middle School Girls' Basketball Team participated in the annual Light the Night Walk at Jacobson Park in Lexington on Saturday. The team walked in support of teammate, Holly Kidwell, daughter of Paul and Angel Kidwell of Mt. Vernon, who suffers from Leukemia. The local group raised over \$700 and won two awards for their efforts. Shown at left is Miss Kidwell, a seventh grader at RCMS. Above, front row, from left are: Neisha Taylor, Heather Hopkins, Holly Kidwell, Megan Anderkin, Ashley Kimbrell and coach Melissa Singleton. Second row, from left: Lura Cash, Ashley Lunsford, Crystal Farthing, Megan Griffin and Jessica Robinson. Back row, from left: Ashley Bell, Tara Rowe, Tressie Robinson, Rachel Killen, Jessica Asher, Natasha Howard and Ashley Bullock.



## Judgeship, Senate seat among races in November

By Richard Anderkin

For the first time since the last county primary election, Rockcastle County voters will have a full slate of candidates to choose from in November's General Election.

There will be races for a Circuit Judge in Family Court, a race for the State Senate in the 21st district which includes, Rockcastle, Jackson, Laurel and Knox Counties, races for city councils, school board, U.S. Congressman and President of the United States.

Rockcastle County resident and current Family Court Circuit Judge Debra Lambert will face Assistant Pulaski County Attorney Michael Duncan for the Judge's seat in Division III of the 28th Judicial Circuit, which is comprised of Rockcastle, Pulaski and Lincoln Counties. Lambert was appointed last year by Kentucky Governor Paul Patton to the new judgeship, which was created by the 1998 General Assembly. Besides being a lawyer, Lambert holds a degree in Child and Family Studies and a minor in Special Education.

Duncan has also served as Assistant Commonwealth Attorney and prosecuted cases in all three counties of the Circuit.

Republican State Senator Albert Robinson, of Laurel County, is facing a stiff challenge from Laurel County Democrat Lawrence Kuhl.

Robinson has served in the Ky. Senate since 1994. Before that he was a state representative for 14 years.

Robinson is currently chairman of the Senate's State and Local Government Committee. He is a real estate broker, auctioneer and developer.

Lawrence Kuhl is a well known Laurel County businessman who served as President of London Bank and Trust Company and then National City from 1981 until he retired last year.

Kuhl was named Man of the Year in Laurel County in 1996 and is credited with much of the area's growth and prosperity.

The Circuit Judge's race and the State Senate race are expected to create the most interest in local elections in November.

There are also seven individuals seeking six council seats in Mt. Vernon.

But, at Livingston, only three people filed for the four seats. And at Brodhead, four people filed for four seats.

In division four school board, which includes Clinax and Orlando voting precincts, Martin Vanzant, 59, who is seeking his first full term, faces opposition from Beverly Sexton, 46.

In division five school board, incumbent Sherry Isaacs, 31, who is seeking her second term, faces opposition from three candidates.

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Judge Debra Lambert



Mike Duncan



State Senator Albert Robinson



Lawrence Kuhl

## BMV will celebrate their 100th birthday

On Monday, October 2, 2000, the Bank of Mt. Vernon will celebrate its 100th birthday with a special anniversary party at the Hwy. 461 by-pass location in Mt. Vernon.

Numerous prizes will be given away and refreshments will be served.

Editors Note: The following is a brief history of the Bank of Mt. Vernon, one of Rockcastle County's oldest ongoing businesses.

"A Brief History" On September 2, 1900, a group of Rockcastle County men met in Jonas McKenzie's store and organized The Bank of Mt. Vernon.

The board of directors included the following: C.C. Williams, J.T. Adams, George Livesay, Jonas

McKenzie, Fritz Krueger, S.H. Martin and A.E. Evans. S.H. Martin was elected as the first president and A.E. Evans was elected vice president.

The group also voted to open the bank's doors for business on October 2, 1900.

W.L. Richards and C.C. Williams were elected to buy the safe and fixtures. W.L. Richards was to buy the books and stationary. A committee of three was appointed to find and rent a suitable building for the bank to occupy. A building on Church Street was located and rented for a term of one year at \$100.00 per year.

At a later meeting held at Jonas McKenzie's store, it was decided to elect W.L. Richards, Chief Ex-

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